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**Human Rights Council**
**Thirty-first session**
Agenda items 3, 4, 7, 9 and 10
**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development**

**Human rights situations that require the Council's attention**

**Human rights situation in Palestine and other occupied Arab territories**

**Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

**Technical assistance and capacity-building**

# Communications report of Special Procedures*

## Communications sent, 1 June to 30 November 2015; Replies received, 1 August 2015 to 31 January 2016

**Joint report by the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context; Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism; the Working Group of Experts on people of African descent; the Working Group on arbitrary detention; Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia; Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic; the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights; the Independent expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities; the Special Rapporteur on the right to education; the Independent Expert on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment; the Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances; Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea; the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights; the Special Rapporteur on the right to food; the**

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[*] The present report is circulated as received.

**Independent expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression; the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief; the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti; the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders; the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers; the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples; the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran; the Working Group on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination; the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants; the Special Rapporteur on minority issues; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar; the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons; the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967; the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography; the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences; the Independent Expert on the situation on human rights in the Sudan; the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism; the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes; the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children; the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation & guarantees of non-recurrence; the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises; the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences; the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice; and the Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation.**

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## Abbreviations

| | |
|---|---|
| Adequate housing | Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context |
| Albinism | Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism |
| African Descent | Working Group of Experts on people of African descent |
| Arbitrary detention | Working Group on Arbitrary Detention |
| Belarus | Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus |
| Burundi | Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi |
| Business enterprises | Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises |
| Cambodia | Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia |
| Central Africa | Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic |
| Côte d'Ivoire | Independent Expert on capacity-building and technical cooperation with Côte d'Ivoire in the field of human rights |
| Cultural Rights | Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights |
| Democratic and equitable international order | Independent expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order |
| Disability | Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities |
| Disappearances | Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances |
| Discrimination against women | Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice |
| DPR Korea | Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea |
| Education | Special Rapporteur on the right to education |
| Environment | Independent Expert on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment |
| Eritrea | Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea |
| Extreme poverty | Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights |
| Food | Special Rapporteur on the right to food |
| Foreign debt | Independent expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights |
| Freedom of expression | Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression |
| Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association | Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association |
| Freedom of religion | Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief |
| Haiti | Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti |
| Health | Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health |
| Human rights defenders | Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders |
| Independence of judges and lawyers | Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers |

| | |
|---|---|
| Indigenous peoples | Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples |
| Internally displaced persons | Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons |
| International Solidarity | Independent Expert on Human Rights and International solidarity |
| Iran | Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran |
| Mali | Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali |
| Mercenaries | Working Group on the use of mercenaries |
| Migrants | Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants |
| Minority issues | Special Rapporteur on Minority Issues |
| Myanmar | Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar |
| OPT | Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 |
| Older persons | Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons |
| Privacy | Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy |
| Racism | Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance |
| Sale of children | Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography |
| Slavery | Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery |
| Somalia | Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia |
| Sudan | Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan |
| Summary executions | Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions |
| Terrorism | Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism |
| Torture | Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment |
| Hazardous substances and wastes | Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes |
| Trafficking | Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children |
| Truth justice, reparation & guarantees on non-recurrence | Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation & guarantees of non-recurrence |
| Unilateral coercive measures | Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights |
| Violence against women | Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences |
| Water and Sanitation | Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation |

## Other abbreviations

| | |
|---|---|
| AL | Letter of allegation |
| JAL | Joint letter of allegation |
| JUA | Joint urgent appeal |
| UA | Urgent appeal |

# I. Introduction

1. Special procedures are mandated by the Human Rights Council to report to it on their activities (see Appendix).

2. In 2009, the sixteenth annual meeting of special procedures mandate holders decided that a joint communications report would be prepared (cf. A/HRC/12/47, paras 24-26), with this decision being reconfirmed by the seventeenth annual meeting of special procedures in 2010 in order to avoid duplication, rationalize documentation, allow examination of cross cutting issues and ensure that the content of communications and any follow-up would feed into the universal periodic review mechanism more effectively. Mandate holders decided that the report should contain summaries of communications and statistical information (A/HRC/15/44, para. 26-27).

3. The Outcome of the review of the work and functioning of the Human Rights Council calls on the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to maintain information on special procedures in a comprehensive and easily accessible manner, and encourages the use of modern information technology to reduce the circulation of paper (A/HRC/RES/16/21, Annex, paras. 29 and 60).

4. Short summaries of allegations communicated to the respective State or other entity are included in the report, and the communications sent and responses received are accessible electronically through hyperlinks. Communications are reproduced in the language in which they were sent. Replies received in Arabic, Chinese or Russian are included with translations into English, where available.

5. This report covers all urgent appeals, and letters of allegations sent by special procedures mandate holders between 1 June and 30 November 2015 and replies received between 1August 2015 and 31 January 2016. Communications sent before 1 June 2015 are reported in A/HRC/30/27, A/HRC/29/50, A/HRC/28/85, A/HRC/27/72, A/HRC/26/21, A/HRC/25/74, A/HRC/24/21, A/HRC/23/51, A/HRC/22/67, A/HRC/22/67 corr.1 and corr.2, A/HRC/21/49, A/HRC/20/30, A/HRC/19/44 and A/HRC/18/51 respectively.

6. The report also includes replies received between 1 August 2015 and 31 January 2016 relating to communications sent by special procedures mandate holders before 1 June 2015. Some of these replies supplement information communicated earlier by the respective State.

7. The present report contains urgent appeals sent by the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and joint urgent appeals sent by them together with other mandates. It does not contain other types of communications issued by these mandates, which are processed according to their own distinctive procedures, and are reported in the annual reports of these two working groups.

8. The names of some alleged victims have been obscured in order to protect their privacy and prevent further victimization. Names of victims who would otherwise have their identities protected are mentioned only when the individual concerned or their direct family has expressly consented or requested to have his or her name in the public report. In the original communications, the full names of the alleged victims were provided to the Government concerned. Names of alleged perpetrators have systematically been darkened in State replies to preserve the presumption of innocence.

9. In preparing the statistics included in this report, uniform reporting periods have been used, reflecting all communications sent between 1 June and 30 November 2015, and responses received in relation to these communications up to 31January 2016.

## Communications and replies by mandate

| | *Reporting period: 1 June to 30 November 2015* | | | *Reporting period: 1 June 2006 to 30 November 2015* | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Mandate* | *Communications sent* | *replied to by 31 January 2016* | *response rate* | *Communications sent* | *replied to by 31 January 2016* | *response rate* |
| Adequate housing | 8 | 4 | 50 % | 289 | 141 | 49 % |
| African descent | 0 | 0 | 0 % | 15 | 9 | 60 % |
| Albinism | 2 | 0 | 0 % | 2 | 0 | 0 % |
| Arbitrary detention (+) | 51 | 25 | 49% | 1,286 | 710 | 55 % |
| Belarus* | 1 | 0 | 0 % | 9 | 6 | 67 % |
| Burundi** | 0 | 0 | 0 % | 6 | 0 | 0 % |
| Business enterprises | 7 | 3 | 43 % | 35 | 19 | 54 % |
| Cambodia | 1 | 0 | 0 % | 24 | 4 | 17 % |
| Central Africa | 1 | 0 | 0 % | 1 | 0 | 0 % |
| Cultural Rights | 12 | 7 | 58 % | 46 | 31 | 67 % |
| Democratic and equitable international order | 9 | 6 | 67 % | 14 | 9 | 64 % |
| Disability | 7 | 1 | 14 % | 17 | 8 | 47 % |
| Disappearances (+) | 20 | 9 | 45 % | 316 | 142 | 45 % |
| Discrimination against women in law and in practice | 13 | 4 | 31 % | 150 | 71 | 47 % |
| DPR Korea | 0 | 0 | 0 % | 7 | 1 | 14 % |
| Education | 3 | 3 | 100 % | 66 | 40 | 61 % |
| Environment | 10 | 4 | 40 % | 23 | 12 | 52 % |
| Eritrea | 0 | 0 | 0 % | 2 | 0 | 0 % |
| Extreme poverty | 2 | 1 | 50 % | 45 | 32 | 71 % |
| Food | 2 | 0 | 0 % | 206 | 80 | 39 % |
| Foreign debt | 0 | 0 | 0 % | 14 | 9 | 64 % |
| Freedom of expression | 123 | 53 | 43 % | 2,454 | 1,272 | 52 % |
| Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association | 75 | 37 | 49 % | 815 | 475 | 58 % |
| Freedom of religion | 21 | 14 | 67 % | 407 | 240 | 59 % |
| Haiti | 2 | 1 | 50 % | 9 | 2 | 22 % |
| Hazardous substances and wastes*** | 5 | 1 | 20 % | 48 | 29 | 60 % |

| | *Reporting period: 1 June to 30 November 2015* | | | *Reporting period: 1 June 2006 to 30 November 2015* | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Mandate* | *Communications sent* | *replied to by 31 January 2016* | *response rate* | *Communications sent* | *replied to by 31 January 2016* | *response rate* |
| Health | 47 | 22 | 47 % | 455 | 256 | 56 % |
| Human rights defenders | 116 | 51 | 44 % | 2,737 | 1,527 | 56 % |
| Independence of judges and lawyers | 60 | 25 | 42 % | 1,070 | 560 | 52 % |
| Indigenous peoples | 17 | 9 | 53 % | 336 | 199 | 59 % |
| Internally displaced persons | 1 | 1 | 100 % | 19 | 7 | 37 % |
| Iran | 16 | 3 | 19 % | 105 | 46 | 44 % |
| Liberia | 0 | 0 | 0 % | 2 | 0 | 0 % |
| Mercenaries | 5 | 2 | 40 % | 70 | 26 | 37 % |
| Migrants | 13 | 7 | 54 % | 212 | 132 | 62 % |
| Minority issues | 18 | 13 | 72 % | 211 | 124 | 59 % |
| Myanmar | 6 | 2 | 33 % | 103 | 50 | 49 % |
| Older persons | 0 | 0 | 0 % | 1 | 1 | 100 % |
| OPT | 6 | 3 | 50 % | 30 | 7 | 23 % |
| Racism | 4 | 2 | 50 % | 108 | 64 | 59 % |
| Sale of children | 4 | 2 | 50 % | 53 | 21 | 40 % |
| Slavery | 3 | 1 | 33 % | 36 | 20 | 56 % |
| Somalia | 2 | 0 | 0 % | 13 | 1 | 8 % |
| Sudan | 3 | 0 | 0 % | 27 | 4 | 15 % |
| Summary executions | 64 | 18 | 28 % | 1,177 | 557 | 47 % |
| Terrorism | 15 | 10 | 67 % | 265 | 126 | 48 % |
| Torture | 101 | 39 | 39 % | 1,998 | 1,066 | 53 % |
| Trafficking | 4 | 2 | 50 % | 74 | 43 | 58 % |
| Truth, justice, reparation & guarantees on non-rec | 8 | 5 | 63 % | 33 | 19 | 58 % |
| Violence against women | 18 | 6 | 33 % | 496 | 260 | 52 % |
| Water and Sanitation | 9 | 1 | 11 % | 64 | 37 | 58 % |

(*) mandate re-established in June 2012, (**) mandate terminated, (***) mandate name changed from 'toxic waste'

(+) These figures do not include communications on standard cases sent to Governments by the Working Group on arbitrary detention and the Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances.

Please note: Totals are higher than the actual number of communications sent or replies received in the given period, as many communications are sent jointly by two or more mandate holders.

# II. Communications sent and replies received

## A. Communications sent between 1 June and 30 November 2015 and replies received between 1 August 2015 and 31 January 2016

10. Communications are presented in chronological order. Copies of the full text of the communications sent and replies received may be accessed from the electronic version of this report available on the OHCHR website. Some names of individuals or other information have been rendered anonymous or otherwise unidentifiable.

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 01/06/2015<br>JAL | AUS 5/2015<br>**Australia** | **Migrants;**<br>**Torture;** | Alleged violation of the principle of non-refoulement by Australian authorities by returning 46 Vietnamese asylum seekers to Vietnam without providing them with a fair refugee status determination procedure. According to the information received, on 20 March 2015, Australian authorities intercepted a boat carrying 46 Vietnamese asylum seekers, including an unknown number of minors, at sea north of Australia. All 46 asylum seekers were reportedly subjected to screening procedures at sea and, on 17 April 2015, forcibly returned and handed over to Vietnamese authorities in Vung Thau. It is reported that all adults present among the group of 46 asylum-seekers were subsequently detained for at least a week in a detention centre in Phan Thiet, Vietnam, where they were at risk of torture or ill-treatment. | 03/08/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 01/06/2015<br>JUA | EGY 6/2015<br>**Egypt** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Health; Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and ill-treatment, and denial of medical treatment of two minors by Egyptian security forces. According to the information received, on 22 February 2014 and 3 March 2015, two under aged Egyptian brothers were arrested and arbitrarily detained by Egyptian security forces, subjected to severe acts of torture and ill-treatment, and denied access to medical treatment. While both minors have been charged with, inter alia, "affiliation to the Muslim Brotherhood", they have not been brought before a judge and no evidence has been presented by the public prosecutor to justify their continued detention. | 02/07/2015<br>16/08/2015 |
| 01/06/2015<br>AL | MRT 2/2015<br>**Mauritanie** | **Slavery;** | Observations concernant le projet de loi abrogeant et remplaçant la loi n° 2007–048 du 3 septembre 2007 portant incrimination de l'esclavage et réprimant les pratiques esclavagistes afin de le rendre conforme aux normes internationales relatives aux droits de l'homme. Les points soulignés font référence aux visites officielles du mandat en Mauritanie (en 2009 et 2014) et portent sur, entre autre, les définitions des formes contemporaines d'esclavage, l'accès effectif à la justice pour les victimes, le droit des victimes à la réparation et la nécessité d'une approche globale comprenant des mesures d'assistance aux victimes et soutenant leur réintégration. | |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 02/06/2015<br>JUA | IRN 7/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Disappearances; Independence of judges and lawyers; Iran; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged imminent execution of two juvenile offenders after trials that did not meet due process and fair trial guarantees. According to the information received, on 18 March 2015, Mr. Saman Naseem, whose death sentence was upheld by the Supreme Court in December 2013 and who was scheduled for execution on 19 February 2015, was transferred from Oroumieh prison to an unknown location. In March 2015, the authorities informed Mr. Naseem's lawyer that his execution had not been carried out. In 2009, in another case, Mr. Hamid Ahmadi was reportedly sentenced to death. However, the Supreme Court overturned his sentence and sent the case back to the Appeals Court for re-trial. In March 2010, the Appeals Court in Gilan Province re-sentenced Mr. Ahmadi to death, a decision which was upheld by the Supreme Court in November 2010. Mr. Ahmadi's application for judicial review is currently pending before the Supreme Court. Mr. Naseem was the subject of two previous communications dated 14 October 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. IRN 23/2014, and 12 February 2015, see A/HRC/29/50, case no. IRN 3/2015. | |
| 03/06/2015<br>JAL | ITA 2/2015<br>**Italy** | **Arbitrary detention; Democratic and equitable international order; Disappearances; Health; Independence of judges and lawyers; Terrorism; Torture; Truth, justice, reparation & guarantees on non-rec;** | Alleged arbitrary detention and torture of an Italian citizen of Moroccan origin in the context of the secret detention, rendition and torture programme operated by the United States' Central Intelligence Agency after 11 September 2001. According to the information received, between March 2002 and April 2011, Mr. Abou Elkassim Britel was secretly detained in Pakistan and Morocco, with the alleged complicity of the Italian authorities, as well as alleged involvement, in the form of logistical support to the rendition programme, of Portuguese authorities. During this period, Mr. Britel was subjected to torture and ill-treatment, without access, or with obstructions to access, to his family or lawyers, and was not presented before a court within a reasonable time. Mr. Britel was pardoned and released on 14 April 2011. To date, no investigation has reportedly been initiated into the alleged events and no reparation or adequate psychological and medical rehabilitation has been provided to him and/or his family members. Communications with the same contents are also being addressed to the Governments of Morocco, Pakistan, Portugal and the United States of America. | 05/08/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 03/06/2015<br>JAL | MAR 3/2015<br>**Maroc** | **Arbitrary detention; Democratic and equitable international order; Disappearances; Health; Independence of judges and lawyers; Terrorism; Torture; Truth, justice, reparation & guarantees on non-rec;** | Allégations de torture d'un citoyen italien d'origine marocaine, dans le cadre du programme de détention secrète, transfert et torture mis en place par la Central Intelligence Agency des États-Unis après le 11 septembre 2001. Selon les informations reçues, M. Abou Elkassim Britel aurait été maintenu en détention secrète au Pakistan et au Maroc, avec la complicité présumée des autorités italiennes, ainsi que la complicité du Portugal, sous la forme de soutien logistique au programme de transfert, entre mars 2002 et avril 2011. Au cours de cette période, M. Britel a été soumis à de la torture et à des mauvais traitements, sans accès ou avec des obstructions à l'accès, à sa famille ou à des avocats, et n'a pas été présenté devant un tribunal dans un délai raisonnable. À ce jour, il semble qu'aucune enquête n'ait été ouverte en ce qui concerne les faits allégués et aucune réparation ou réhabilitation psychologique au médicale adéquate ne semble avoir été apportée à M. Britel et/ou aux membres de sa famille. Des communications avec le même contenu sont également adressées aux Gouvernements de l'Italie, des États-Unis, du Pakistan et du Portugal. | |
| 03/06/2015<br>JAL | PAK 4/2015<br>**Pakistan** | **Arbitrary detention; Democratic and equitable international order; Disappearances; Health; Independence of judges and lawyers; Terrorism; Torture; Truth, justice, reparation & guarantees on non-rec;** | Alleged arbitrary detention and torture of an Italian citizen of Moroccan origin in the context of the secret detention, rendition and torture programme operated by the United States' Central Intelligence Agency after 11 September 2001. According to the information received, between March 2002 and April 2011, Mr. Abou Elkassim Britel was secretly detained in Pakistan and Morocco, with the alleged complicity of Italian authorities, as well as alleged involvement, in the form of logistical support to the rendition programme, of Portuguese authorities. During this period, Mr. Britel was subjected to torture and ill-treatment, without access, or with obstructions to access, to his family or lawyers, and was not presented before a court within a reasonable time. Mr. Britel was pardoned and released on 14 April 2011. To date, no investigation has reportedly been initiated into the alleged events and no reparation or adequate psychological and medical rehabilitation has been provided to him and/or his family members. Communications with the same contents are also being addressed to the Governments of Italy, Morocco, Portugal and the United States of America. | 09/06/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 03/06/2015<br>JAL | PRT 1/2015<br>**Portugal** | **Arbitrary detention; Democratic and equitable international order; Disappearances; Health; Independence of judges and lawyers; Terrorism; Torture; Truth, justice, reparation & guarantees on non-rec;** | Alleged arbitrary detention and torture of an Italian citizen of Moroccan origin in the context of the secret detention, rendition and torture programme operated by the United States' Central Intelligence Agency after 11 September 2001.<br>According to the information received, between March 2002 and April 2011, Mr. Abou Elkassim Britel was secretly detained in Pakistan and Morocco, with the alleged complicity of Italian authorities, as well as alleged involvement, in the form of logistical support to the rendition programme, of Portuguese authorities. During this period, Mr. Britel was subjected to torture and ill-treatment, without access, or with obstructions to access, to his family or lawyers, and was not presented before a court within a reasonable time. Mr. Britel was pardoned and released on 14 April 2011. To date, no investigation has reportedly been initiated into the alleged events and no reparation or adequate psychological and medical rehabilitation has been provided to him and/or his family members.<br>Communications with the same contents are also being addressed to the Governments of Italy, Morocco, Pakistan and the United States of America. | 05/08/2015 |
| 03/06/2015<br>JAL | USA 12/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Arbitrary detention; Democratic and equitable international order; Disappearances; Health; Independence of judges and lawyers; Terrorism; Torture; Truth, justice, reparation & guarantees on non-rec;** | Alleged arbitrary detention and torture of an Italian citizen of Moroccan origin in the context of the secret detention, rendition and torture programme operated by the United States' Central Intelligence Agency after 11 September 2001.<br>According to the information received, between March 2002 and April 2011, Mr. Abou Elkassim Britel was secretly detained in Pakistan and Morocco, with the alleged complicity of Italian authorities, as well as alleged involvement, in the form of logistical support to the rendition programme, of Portuguese authorities. During this period, Mr. Britel was subjected to torture and ill-treatment, without access, or with obstructions to access, to his family or lawyers, and was not presented before a court within a reasonable time. Mr. Britel was pardoned and released on 14 April 2011. To date, no investigation has reportedly been initiated into the alleged events and no reparation or adequate psychological and medical rehabilitation has been provided to him and/or his family members.<br>Communications with the same contents are also being addressed to the Governments of Italy, Morocco, Pakistan and Portugal. | 03/08/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 04/06/2015<br>JUA | IRN 6/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Iran; Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest and detention, prolonged solitary confinement and unfair trial of an artist and two journalists. According to the information received, on 26 February 2015, Ms. Atena Farghadani, a graphic arts student who had been detained in Gharchak prison since August 2014, was taken to hospital after suffering a heart attack. After release from hospital, Ms. Farghadani was reportedly taken to Evin prison where she is being held in solitary confinement. On 19 May 2015 her trial commenced on charges of, inter alia, "spreading propaganda against the system", and "insulting the Supreme Leader", and on 1 June 2015, she was reportedly sentenced to 12 years and nine months in prison. It is reported that her lawyer was not allowed to review her case file. On 22 July 2014, Mr. Jason Rezaian, an American-Iranian journalist, was arrested together with his wife, Ms. Yeganeh Salehi, also a journalist. Ms. Salehi was released on bail in October 2014. In April 2015, Mr. Rezaian was formally charged with espionage. Mr. Rezaian's and Ms. Salehi's trial started on 26 May 2015. During his detention, Mr. Rezaian spent a number of months in solitary confinement, during which he was interrogated repeatedly. Ms. Farghadani and Mr. Rezaian were the subject of two previous communications sent on 6 August 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. IRN 16/2014, and on 16 January 2015, see A/HRC/29/50, case no. IRN 1/2015. | |
| 05/06/2015<br>JAL | PRY 2/2015<br>**Paraguay** | **Discrimination against women; Health; Torture; Violence against women;** | Carta que acusa recibo y agradece la respuesta al llamamiento urgente enviado con anterioridad sobre el caso de la niña embarazada. Asimismo, la carta toma nota y agradece la invitación cursada a todos los titulares de mandato implicados a visitar Paraguay. Los titulares de mandato reiteran su preocupación e interés en dar seguimiento al caso y se ponen a disposición de las autoridades para proporcionar el asesoramiento necesario acerca de los estándares internacionales aplicable así como sobre medidas para su adecuada implementación. Este caso fue objeto de una comunicación previa enviada el 8 de mayo de 2015, ver A/HRC/30/27, caso PRG 1/2015. | |

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| 08/06/2015<br>JAL | COD 2/2015<br>**Democratic Republic of the Congo** | **Health; Torture;** | Allégations de torture et de mauvais traitements contre un homme de nationalité congolaise. Selon les informations reçues, M. Emile Bisimwa Muhirhi aurait été arrêté le 17 décembre 2014 à Bukavu par plusieurs agents de l'Agence Nationale de Renseignement de Sud-Kivu. Il aurait été accusé par un officier de police militaire d'avoir volé de l'argent à son cousin. De la fin de l'année 2012 jusqu'au 15 février 2014, M. Bisimwa aurait travaillé avec le cousin de l'agent de l'OPJ dans une activité de transfert d'argent de Misisi à Bukavu. M. Bisimwa aurait été torturé par cet officier de police. Forcé de rester debout, il aurait été détenu pendant 28 jours dans une cellule minuscule. M. Bisimwa se serait vu refuser des soins médicaux pour les souffrances provoquées par les tortures et mauvais traitements reçues. M. Bisimwa resterait en détention à la prison centrale de Bukavu où il ferait face à de mauvaises conditions de détention. Une procédure judiciaire contre M. Bisimwa devant le Tribunal de la Paix serait en cours ainsi qu'une procédure pénale devant la Tribunal de Grande Instance de Bukavu contre l'officier de police militaire et son cousin, pour torture et détention arbitraire. | |
| 08/06/2015<br>JAL | FRA 3/2015<br>**France** | **Disability; Health;** | Réponse à la lettre du 27 mars 2015 du Gouvernement français concernant la situation d'un enfant autiste à risque d'être placé de force dans un Institut Médico-Educatif. Selon les informations reçues, à ce jour cet enfant de 15 ans continue d'être déscolarisé. En réponse à des préoccupations soulevées dans deux communications précédentes, la seule solution indiquée par les autorités compétentes est de le placer dans un Institut Médico-Educatif. Ce type d'instituts a été critiqué par le Comité européen des droits sociaux, en 2013, à cause de leur manque d'objectif éducatif. Le Gouvernement est prié d'adopter toutes les mesures nécessaires pour prévenir l'institutionnalisation de cet enfant et assurer son inclusion scolaire et sociale. Les deux communications précédentes ont été envoyés le 22 décembre 2014, voir référence A/HRC/29/50, cas no FRA 4/2014, et le 12 mars 2015, voir référence A/HRC/30/27, cas no FRA 2/2015. | |

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| 08/06/2015<br>JUA | THA 4/2015<br>**Thailand** | **Arbitrary detention;**<br>**Freedom of expression;**<br>**Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary detention, torture and ill-treatment in police custody of four persons. According to the information received, on 9 and 10 March 2015, Mr. Sansoen Srioonruen, Mr. Norapat Luaphon, Mr. Wichai Yoosuk and Mr. Chanwit Jariyanukul were arrested, detained and subjected to torture and ill-treatment by Bangkok military police officers. The four men are suspected of having planned, during a meeting of social activists that took place in the Khon Kaen Province on 14 and 15 February 2015, the attack with a grenade at the Bangkok Criminal Court on 7 March 2015. The allegations described in the communication reportedly take place in a context of increased restrictions on multiple rights and fundamental guarantees, including on the right to freedom of opinion and expression, as well as restrictions against political opponents, since the military coup of 22 May 2014, as pointed out by several special procedures in previous communications, including in a joint urgent appeal sent on 8 December 2014, A/HRC/29/50, case no. THA 13/2014. | |
| 09/06/2015<br>AL | AFG 2/2015<br>**Afghanistan** | **Discrimination against women;** | Letter concerning discriminatory provisions against women in national legislation. According to the information received, current marital law in Afghanistan discriminates against women in that the household's supervision is solely the right of the husband. Furthermore, the wife's right to leave the home is restricted, pursuant to Article 133 of the Shia Personal Status Law of 2009 of Afghanistan. | |
| 09/06/2015<br>AL | JPN 2/2015<br>**Japan** | **Discrimination against women;** | Letter concerning discriminatory provisions against women in Japanese national legislation. According to the information received, articles 731 and 733 of Japan's Civil Code discriminate against women in that they permit 16-year-old girls to be married while the minimum legal age for marriage for boys is 18, and prohibit women from remarrying for six months after the dissolution or cancellation of a marriage. | |

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| 09/06/2015<br>JAL | UKR 1/2015<br>**Ukraine** | **Arbitrary detention; Democratic and equitable international order; Disappearances; Freedom of expression; Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture;** | Alleged adoption by the Parliament of Ukraine of a resolution requesting derogation from certain rights protected by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. According to the information received, the resolution, entitled "On the Approval of the Notification of Ukraine about the Derogation from Certain Obligations Determined by the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights", mentions derogations of State obligations in relation to the rights to liberty and security, fair trial, effective remedy, respect for private and family life, and freedom of movement, including the right to choose one's residence. The derogation would reportedly significantly lower the level of human rights protection in certain districts of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions. | |
| 10/06/2015<br>JUA | IRN 8/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Iran; Summary executions; Torture;** | Allegations concerning a trial resulting in a death sentence, and of imminent risk of execution, in contravention of international human rights law. According to the information received, Mr. Ehsan Shah Ghasemi faces imminent execution for an assault that occurred in July 2011, which allegedly led to the death of the victim in March 2014. Mr. Ghasemi was first arrested in 2011 and detained at Kahrizak Detention Centre, including in solitary confinement, where he suffered torture and ill-treatment. He was tried and convicted for the assault by a Tehran criminal court between March and April 2012, but later pardoned by the victim. He was re-arrested in March 2014, after the victim died from complications related to the initial injury. He was not able to choose his own lawyer for his trial before Branch 113 of the Criminal Court of Tehran Province in October 2014, and his access to the court-recommended lawyer was restricted. The Criminal Court sentenced Mr. Ghasemi to death under the principle of "retribution in kind", a sentence which was upheld by Iran's Supreme Court in May 2015. Reports indicate that the deceased victim's portrayal by authorities as a "martyr" who gave his life to "promote Islamic virtue and prohibit vice" may have had an impact during the court proceedings. | |

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| 11/06/2015<br>JUA | CHN 5/2015<br>**China (People's Republic of)** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders;** | Alleged arbitrary sentencing of a human rights defender as well as alleged arbitrary detention of a housing rights' activist. According to the information received, on 18 September 2013, Mr. Liu Jiacai, a democracy activist, was formally charged with "disrupting public order" after being detained since 2 August 2013. His trial before the Intermediate People's Court in Yichang City, Hubei Province, started on 23 July 2014, and on 11 May 2015, Mr. Liu Jiacai was sentenced to five years in prison on charges of 'inciting subversion of state power'. It is reported that Mr. Liu Jiacai's detention and sentence are related to his peaceful and legitimate activities as a human rights activist. On 7 May 2014, Ms. Jia Lingmin, housing rights' activist, was taken to and detained at Wutongjie Police Station, Gaoxin District, by two police officers. She was subsequently transferred to Zhengzhou City No.3 Detention Centre, where she was reportedly held in incommunicado detention for almost a week. On 30 May 2014,Ms. Jia Lingmin was formally charged with 'creating a disturbance'. On 27 April 2015, Ms. Jia Lingmin's trial hearing began before the Heluo Center People's Court in Gongyi City but was suspended when her lawyers objected to the lack of due process. To date, Ms. Jia Lingmin remains detained. Mr. Liu Jiacai was the subject of a previous communication dated 22 August 2013, see A/HRC/25/74, case no. CHN 9/2013. | |
| 11/06/2015<br>JAL | ISR 2/2015<br>**Israel** | **Health; OPT;** | Alleged destruction of, and damage to, the medical infrastructure in Gaza as well as obstruction of medical evacuations by the Israel Defense Forces in violation of international humanitarian law and international human rights law. According to the information received, in July and August 2014, during Israel's military operation codenamed 'Operation Protective Edge' in Gaza, seven attacks were reportedly carried out on hospitals and ambulances by the Israel Defense Forces while they were being used for civilian purposes. The attacks often took place without adequate warning and with wilful delay and obstruction of medical evacuations in violation of the right to the highest attainable standard of health and the right to life. Concerns are raised at the apparent failure to respect the special protection under international humanitarian law afforded to working hospitals and medical personnel in an armed conflict. | 15/12/2015 |

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| 11/06/2015<br>JUA | KOR 2/2015<br>**Republic of Korea** | **Arbitrary detention;**<br>**Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Alleged excessive use of force against and detention of protestors and human rights activists during peaceful protests commemorating the Sewol ferry accident and during the Labour Day march. According to the information received, on 11 April 2015, Mr. Hyun-sik Kim and Mr. Hyung-jae Ham, both members of the People's Committee for the Sewol Ferry tragedy, were arrested following their participation in a peaceful protest that called for an independent investigation into the Sewol ferry accident. On 16 and 18 April 2015, protests were held in Seou to mark the one-year anniversary of the Sewol ferry accident. The police reportedly used water cannons containing pepper spray and tear gas to control the crowds and arrested 79 protestors, including Mr. Jang-hee Kwon and Mr. Kwang-chul Kang. On 1 and 2 May 2015 at 3 p.m., the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions organized a Labour Day March, which was joined by Sewol families and members of the Coalition on the Sewol Ferry Disaster in solidarity with the workers. It is reported that approximately forty people were arrested, including Mr. Gil-soo Ahn and Mr. Gi-ho Lee. To date, Mr. Hyung-jae Ham, Mr. Hyun-sik Kim, Mr. Jang-hee Kwon, Mr. Kwang-chul Kang, Mr. Gil-soo Ahn, and Mr. Gi-ho Lee remain in detention. | |

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| 12/06/2015<br>JAL | EGY 10/2015<br>**Egypt** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Allegations concerning growing restrictions on civil society and increased targeting of human rights defenders in the context of the implementation of the Law on Non-Governmental Organizations (Law 84/2002). According to the information received, in April 2015, a committee of experts of the Ministry of Social Solidarity was assigned to investigate the Egyptian Democratic Academy. In December 2014 and January 2015, Mr. Hossameldin Ali, Mr. Ahmed Ghonim and Ms. Esraa Abdel Fattah, all Academy members, were banned from traveling abroad. On 9 June 2015, the committee inspected the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies, whose staff, including Mr. Bahey el-Din Hassan, its general director, have recently been stopped by airport authorities, upon arrival and departure from the country, and have regularly been questioned about their work. Furthermore, in September 2014, the registration application of the Foundation of victims of abduction and enforced disappearance, as regulated by the Law, was rejected without any justification given. The Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms' application was also denied without reason given. Furthermore, on 2 June 2015, Mr. Mohamed Lotfy, its executive director, was stopped at Cairo airport and banned from traveling to Germany to address the German Parliament on the human rights situation in Egypt. Concerns relative to the Law were addressed in four previous communications sent on 17 November 2011, see A/HRC/19/44, case no. EGY 12/2011; on 12 February 2013, see A/HRC/23/51, case no. EGY 4/2013; on 20 March 2013, see A/HRC/24/21, case no. EGY 5/2013; and on 29 August 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. EGY 11/2014. | 18/08/2015 |

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| 12/06/2015<br>JUA | SAU 3/2015<br>**Saudi Arabia** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of religion; Human rights defenders; Torture;** | Alleged imminent resumption of the public flogging of a Saudi Arabian human rights defender in violation of the right to be free from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. According to the information received, on 7 June 2015, the Supreme Court in Riyadh upheld the sentence of 10 years in prison, 1000 lashes, a 10-year travel ban to start on expiration of his prison sentence, a ban on using media outlets and a fine of one million Saudi Riyals (267,000 USD) against Mr. Raef Badawi for "insulting Islam and religious authorities" in relation to his human rights activities. This sentence was handed down by the Jeddah Criminal Court on 7 May 2014 and upheld by the Jeddah Court of Appeal on 1 September 2014. On 9 January 2015, Mr. Badawi received the first 50 lashes ordered by the Ministry of Interior. Following a medical examination which concluded that Mr. Badawi's wounds had not healed from the first round of flogging and that he would not be able to withstand another round of lashes, the second round of public flogging had been suspended since 16 January 2015. After the Supreme Court's decision, the public flogging of Mr. Badawi may reportedly resume as early as 12 June 2015. Mr. Badawi was the subject of four previous communications sent on 12 July 2012, see A/HRC/22/67, case no. SAU 9/2012; on 31 January 2014, see A/HRC/26/21, case no. SAU 2/2014; on 31 October 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no, SAU 13/2014; and on 22 January 2015, see A/HRC/29/50, case no. SAU 1/2015. | 17/06/2015 |

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| 12/06/2015<br>JUA | SDN 4/2015<br>**Sudan** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Freedom of religion; Independence of judges and lawyers; Minority issues; Sudan; Summary executions;** | Alleged arbitrary detention and criminal charges against two clergymen as well as undue restrictions of religious freedom of the Christian communities in Sudan. According to the information received, on 2 December 2014, 39 Sudan Evangelical Presbyterian Church members who peacefully assembled around the church to defend the property from being confiscated by the authorities were arrested. Reverends Yat Michael Ruot Puk and Peter Yien Reith were arrested separately on 14 December 2014 and 11 January 2015 respectively, and held incommunicado until their transfer to Omdurman Men's Prison on 1 March 2015. Reportedly, on 4 May 2015, they were both brought to the Khartoum Bahri Criminal Court for hearings. Reverend Michael and Reverend Peter reportedly face six criminal charges, some of which carry the death penalty or life imprisonment. Both clergymen were recently transferred to Kober prison, a high security facility, and have had no access to their families and lawyers since 4 June 2015. Reports also indicate that the religious autonomy of churches, the rights to freedom of expression, religion and of peaceful assembly of the Christian religious minorities have been seriously undermined by ongoing mass expulsions, arrests, detentions of foreign Christians and confiscation or destruction of church properties since the end of 2012. | |
| 15/06/2015<br>JAL | JPN 1/2015<br>**Japan** | **Environment; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Allegations of harassment, excessive use of force and arbitrary arrests of peaceful protestors in Okinawa. According to the information received, an unknown number of individuals, including Mr. Masatsugi Isa, Mr. Hiroj Yamashiro, Mr. Dagakku Tanimoto and Mr. Nakasone, were arrested and some of them charged with participating in peaceful sit-in protests in front of the gate of Camp Schwab. The sit-in protests are organized against the lack of public consultation about the construction of a new United States of America military base in the northern region of Okinawa, which is being built over entire coral colonies and involves the complete land fill of a bay that is the breeding ground of the endangered dugong species and will lead to the destruction of an entire ecosystem. | 27/07/2015 |

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| 15/06/2015<br>JAL | PHL 3/2015<br>**Philippines** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Alleged surveillance of an alliance of individuals, groups and organizations who advocate for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Philippines and intimidation of its members. According to the information received, on 26 April 2015, a number of unidentified uniformed men allegedly carried out surveillance of the Southern Mindanao office the Alliance for the Advancement of People's Rights (Karapatan). The same day, while leaving the office, Mr. Eduardo Regidor, a staff member of Karapatan, and members of his family were followed and threatened by three armed unidentified men. On 27 April 2015, three unidentified men attempted to enter the office of Karapatan, where several staff members, including Mr. Regidor, were present at the time. The three men left when police officers and reporters arrived at the scene. The staff members of Karapatan filed reports with the San Pedro police on all three incidents. Concern is expressed that these incidents may be a result of Karapatan's peaceful human rights activities and their exercise of the rights to freedom of expression and association. | |
| 16/06/2015<br>JUA | COD 3/2015<br>**Democratic Republic of the Congo** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture;** | Allégations concernant la détention arbitraire et incommunicado d'un défenseur des droits de l'homme, et les mauvaises conditions de sa détention. Selon les informations reçues, le 15 mars 2015, M. Fred Bauma Winga, un activiste des droits de l'homme engagé dans plusieurs mouvements associatifs, aurait fait partie d'une quarantaine de jeunes activistes et défenseurs des droits de l'homme qui auraient été arrêtés et brutalisés par la police militaire congolaise lors d'une conférence de presse organisée à Kinshasa par le réseau Flimbi. La Flimbi est un réseau d'organisations de jeunes citoyens activistes pour la démocratie. Le Gouvernement congolais aurait qualifié les activistes de «terroristes». M. Bauma Winga serait détenu dans de mauvaises conditions. Au début de sa détention, il aurait été détenu de manière incommunicado, puis aurait été présenté devant le tribunal de paix de Ngaliema et aurait été inculpé pour attentat à la vie du Chef de l'Etat, complot et trahison. M. Bauma Winga se trouve toujours en détention. | |

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| 17/06/2015<br>JUA | DOM 3/2015<br>**Dominican Republic** | **Migrants; Racism;** | Presuntas expulsiones de extranjeros a Haiti por parte del Gobierno de la República Dominicana con efecto discriminatorio para las personas de origen haitiano. Según la información recibida, el ejército dominicano realiza a diario expulsiones de extranjeros en los puntos fronterizos (obviando) ignorandola obligación de no realizar deportaciones de personas radicadas en el territorio de la República Dominicana que se hayan acogido al Plan de Regularización que finaliza el próximo 16 de junio de 2016. | |
| 17/06/2015<br>JUA | ESP 7/2015<br>**Spain** | **Human rights defenders;**<br>**Torture;** | Presuntos actos de represalia contra un preso, en forma de denegación de beneficios penitenciarios, así como contra miembros de un observatorio catalán de derechos humanos, en forma de obstrucción a su trabajo de supervisión. Según la información recibida, el señor José Antúnez Becerra, preso en el Centro Penitenciario de Quatre Camins desde hace más de 10 años, sufriría represalias por haber denunciado actos de tortura, por parte de funcionarios del centro penitenciario de Quatre Camins, sufridos durante un motín que tuvo lugar en ese mismo lugar el 30 de abril de 2004 y en días posteriores. A su vez, miembros del Observatorio del Sistema Penal y Derechos Humanos de la Universidad de Barcelona, – que se ocupa de la supervisión de centros de privación de la libertad y que habría participado en una demanda contra nueve funcionarios a la luz de tal motín – y en particular su Director, el señor Iñaki Rivera Beiras, habrían sufrido actos de obstrucción a su trabajo de control y seguimiento de la situación de derechos humanos en los centros de privación de libertad en Cataluña por parte de autoridades del Gobierno catalán. El Señor Antúnez Becerra se encontraría en el módulo 4 del centro penitenciario de Brians 2, y su estado de salud habría deteriorado seriamente. | 02/11/2015 |

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| 18/06/2015<br>JAL | BGD 4/2015<br>**Bangladesh** | **Discrimination against women; Education; Health; Sale of children; Slavery; Violence against women;** | Allegations concerning the possible detrimental impact of the ongoing reform of the 1929 Child Marriage Restraint Act on the rights of women and girls in Bangladesh. According to the information received, the Government of Bangladesh is currently reforming the 1929 Child Marriage Restraint Act. It is alleged that a proposed amendment includes an exception to the current minimum age of marriage of 18 for girls and 21 for boys. The suggested provision allegedly allows for the marriage of girls from the age of 16 with the consent of parents and the agreement of the court. It is further alleged that the revised Act has not been shared with civil society. Concern is expressed regarding the aforementioned envisaged exception in the revised Act which would in effect condone and legitimize child and forced marriages. | 22/06/2015 |
| 18/06/2015<br>JAL | IND 7/2015<br>**India** | **Environment; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Allegations concerning the arbitrary freezing of funds of Greenpeace India and more broadly the increasing restrictions placed on associations with regard to accessing funding. According to the information received, on 9 April 2015, the bank accounts of Greenpeace India were frozen, based on a decision taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs, on the grounds that the organization had failed to inform the concerned authorities about the transfer of foreign contributions it had received. It is however alleged that the decision to freeze Greenpeace India's bank accounts was in fact taken in retaliation for the organization's work in the country, including campaigns against Coal India Limited and the creation of regional anti-coal protest movements. It is further reported that the freezing of accounts and other restrictions placed on Greenpeace India are part of a wider pattern of increased limitations placed on civil society in accessing funding. | 17/08/2015 |

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| 22/06/2015<br>JUA | LBN 2/2015<br>**Liban** | **Arbitrary detention; Human rights defenders;** | Allégations d'arrestation et de détention arbitraire d'un défenseur des droits de l'homme syrien. Selon les informations reçues, le 15 juin 2015, M. Maher Ahmad Ibrahim, un défenseur syrien et le fondateur de l'organisation Developmental Interaction Network, aurait été arrêté dans son bureau à Achrafieh, Beyrouth, par des agents du service de renseignement militaire libanais. Le 16 juin 2015, il aurait été transféré au siège de la Sécurité Générale à Beyrouth, où il reste détenu. Aucune charge n'a été portée contre lui. En outre, personne n'aurait été autorisé à lui rendre visite en détention. Selon les informations, il y a un risque que M. Ibrahim soit refoulé vers la Syrie. Dans ce cas, il risquerait d'être soumis à une disparition forcée, à la torture ou à une exécution extrajudiciaire. De graves préoccupations sont exprimées en raison du fait que l'arrestation et la détention de M. Ibrahim seraient liées à son travail pacifique en faveur des droits de l'homme en Syrie. | 22/01/2016 |
| 22/06/2015<br>JAL | PAK 1/2015<br>**Pakistan** | **Discrimination against women; Education; Freedom of religion; Minority issues; Summary executions; Violence against women;** | Alleged systematic and persistent human rights violations of individuals belonging to Shia, Christian, Ahmadi, Hindu, Sikh and Sufi minority communities in Pakistan by non-state actors, and failure of the authorities to prevent, protect and investigate those acts with due diligence. According to the information received, since 2013, a large number of attacks in the form of intimidation, forced marriage, including child marriage, forced conversion, persecution, discrimination, hostility, violence and killings, and targeting members of religious minorities have taken place. The climate of impunity is allegedly fostered by Pakistan's blasphemy laws and anti-Ahmadi laws, which allow for heavy punishments and have been used to prosecute and punish members of religious minorities and those who attempt to defend or speak out for them. Currently, there are at least 17 individuals on death row and another 19 serving life sentences for blasphemy in Pakistan. Reference is made to previous related communications sent on 22 November 2010, see A/HRC/16/53/Add.1, paras. 326-335; on 22 March 2012, see A/HRC/21/49, case no. PAK 3/2012; on 16 April, 22 May and 30 May 2014, see A/HRC/27/72, case nos. PAK 5/2014, PAK 7/2014 and PAK 8/2014; on 23 October and 5 November 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case nos. PAK 11/2014 and PAK 13/2014; and on 1 December 2014, see A/HRC/29/50, case no. PAK 14/2014. | 21/08/2015 |

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| 22/06/2015<br>UA | TZA 1/2015<br>**United Republic of Tanzania** | **Indigenous peoples;** | Alleged attacks against Maasai communities in Tanzania resulting in gross and continued violations of their individual and collective human rights. According to the information received, on 18 January 2015, triggered by the burial of a farmer from Morogoro municipality in the Mvomero district, Maasai pastoralists as well as Datoga pastoralists, often mistaken for Maasai, have been targeted through a series of organized assaults. These assaults have created an environment of fear among the Maasai living in the region. Maasai representatives have requested protection from district and regional authorities to stop the escalation of violence. No protection has reportedly been provided to affected communities from settlers who cultivate lands legally registered to the Kambala, Mvomero district, and Mabwegere, Kilosa district, communities. Echoing the Maasai authorities' fear of escalation of violence, during the February 2014 Parliamentary session, a Member of Parliament expressed concern that the assaults on Maasai in Morogoro could lead to genocide. On 7 February 2015, the Prime Minister committed to visit the region; however, despite the continued recurrence of violent episodes, the visit has yet to take place. | 07/09/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 23/06/2015<br>JAL | MMR 6/2015<br>**Myanmar** | **Freedom of expression; Myanmar;** | Allegations of criminal prosecution and sentencing of several media workers in Myanmar for publishing stories criticising Government officials or departments and expressing their opinion about draft legislation. According to the information received, in March 2014, Mr. Ko Si Thu Lwin, senior reporter at The Myanmar Times, was convicted under articles 499 and 500 of the Penal Code in Madaya Township Court for an article considered damaging to the reputation of the electricity department. Since October 2014, Mr. Nay Htun Naing, Mr. Thein Myint, Mr. Wai Phyo, Mr. Myat Thit and Mr. Than Htut Aung, members of the Eleven Media Group including its Chief Executive Officer, have faced prosecution for defamation for an article criticising a proposed bill. In November 2014, Mr. Than Myat Soe, journalist at the Myanmar Thandawsint, was charged under article 9(g) of the News Media Law for publishing information on allegations of police corruption. Eleven other staff members of the Myanmar Thandawsint also face charges under article 9(g) after publishing an interview criticising Myanmar's President. In March 2015, two journalists were sentenced to two months imprisonment for defamation after publishing an article about a military member of Parliament. | |
| 23/06/2015<br>AI | OTH 4/2015<br>**Other** | **Disability;** | Letter to the Committee on Development Effectiveness of the World Bank recommending the inclusion of a number of references to persons with disabilities and a disability perspective in the World Bank's Safeguard Policies and in its draft "Environmental and Social Standards". According to the information received, the Committee convened a meeting for 24 June 2015 to discuss the second draft of the World Bank's "Environmental and Social Standards". In this regard, the Special Rapporteur sets out a number of recommendations, for consideration by the Committee ahead of its meeting, to be included in the draft Standards. | |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 24/06/2015<br>JUA | IRN 9/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Freedom of expression; Health; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Iran; Torture;** | Allegations concerning the arrest, detention, ill-treatment and sentencing of a civil rights activist and a journalist after unfair trials. According to the information received, on 21 October 2014, Ms. Atena Daemi was arrested and detained in Evin Prison. She was reportedly held in solitary confinement for 58 days under degrading conditions, and without access to a lawyer. While in detention, she was subjected to extensive interrogations and ill-treatment. On 12 May 2015, Ms. Daemi was sentenced to 14 years in prison by Branch 28 of the Revolutionary Court of Tehran for inter alia "spreading propaganda against the system" and "insulting the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran" based on her criticism on social media of the high number of executions in Iran and other peaceful activities. While in prison, Ms. Daemi has reportedly developed health problems but the authorities have to this date refused to grant her medical leave. On 10 May 2014, Mr. Seraj Mirdamadi was arrested and detained in Evin prison. He was held in solitary confinement for six months. On 27 July 2014, Mr. Mirdamadi was sentenced to six years in prison by Branch 15 of the Tehran Revolutionary Court for "propaganda against the state" and "conspiracy against national security. On 29 October 2014, the Appeal Court reduced his sentence to three years in prison and a two-year travel ban. Despite having had critical health issues, Mr. Mirdamadi did not receive adequate medical treatment for five months before he finally underwent surgery on 28 May 2015. | |
| 25/06/2015<br>JUA | COL 3/2015<br>**Colombia** | **Disappearances; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Presuntas amenazas y agresiones contra testigos en dos casos de desaparición forzada y una abogada, miembro de una organización de derechos humanos. Según la información recibida, el 17 de mayo, el Sr. Luis Carlos Ramírez, habría sido agredido por dos hombres cuando se dirigía a su trabajo en Bogotá. El 21 de mayo, la Sra. Jacqueline Ramírez, habría recibido una llamada telefónica amenazadora. Previamente, su abogada y miembro de la organización de derechos humanos Fundación Nydia Erika Bautista, la Sra. Andrea Torres Bautista, habría sido amenazada de manera similar. Anteriormente, miembros de la Fundación Nydia Erika Bautista fueron objeto de comunicaciones enviadas el 24 de septiembre y el 21 de octubre de 2014, ver A/HRC/28/85, casos COL 8/2014 y COL 9/2014. | 25/08/2015<br>18/09/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 26/06/2015<br>UA | GTM 2/2015<br>**Guatemala** | **Human rights defenders;** | Alegaciones relativas a amenazas de muerte e intimidaciones contra un defensor de derechos humanos. Según las informaciones recibidas, el 22 de mayo de 2015, el Sr. Amílcar de Jesús Pop Ac habría presentado una denuncia ante el Ministerio Público contra el Presidente de la República por delitos de encubrimiento, incumplimiento de deberes de funcionario público y asociación ilícita. La denuncia fue enviada a la Corte Suprema de Justicia que determinó la remisión del antejuicio al Congreso de la República con el fin de decidir si se levantaba la inmunidad del Presidente. El 11 de junio de 2015, el Sr. Pop Ac habría recibido información de que un grupo de personas vinculadas al Poder Ejecutivo se habrían juntado con la intención de atentar contra su vida. El Sr. Pop Ac fue sujeto de una comunicación anterior enviada por varios Relatores Especiales fechada el 19 de agosto de 2008, véase A/HRC/10/12/Add.1, caso GTM 15/2008. | 17/09/2015 |
| 26/06/2015<br>UA | PSE 1/2015<br>**State of Palestine** | **Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and ill-treatment of two Palestinian brothers. According to the information received, on 23 May 2015, after Mr. X had received threats over the phone from a member of the Palestinian General Intelligence Service (GIS), Mr. Y and Mr. Z, his brothers, travelled to his place of residence, a garage close to the village of Ajja in the West Bank, to assist him. Shortly after arriving at the garage (where the two brothers told Mr. X to stay inside) two plain clothed police officers arrived; presumably to help prevent a potential quarrel. Subsequently, three armed GIS officers arrived and started shooting in different directions with live ammunition. After attacking one of the GIS officers, Mr. Z was seized by the police officers and subsequently shot in the leg. When he escaped and reported the incident at a police station, he was arrested and handed over to GIS forces. Both, Mr. Y and Mr. Z were arrested, detained and severely tortured and ill-treated by GIS forces and required treatment in a government hospital. They were not provided with any medical certificate and, after their release from detention, subjected to intimidation by a group of members of the Fatah with the purpose of preventing them from reporting the incidents. | |

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| 26/06/2015<br>JUA | UKR 3/2015<br>**Ukraine** | **Arbitrary detention;**<br>**Terrorism;**<br>**Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and ill-treatment of 38 members of a Ukrainian non-governmental organization. According to the information received, between 8 and 23 April 2015, the Odessa branch of the Security Service of Ukraine arrested 38 members of the Orthodox Kossacks, a registered non-governmental organization,  and charged them with organizing a terrorist group and planning to establish an "Odessa People's Republic" under section 258/3 of the penal code. The organization is also registered as a civil organization authorized to possess weapons and entrusted with the authority to assist police forces in maintaining and securing public order, which the organization did upon the request of law enforcement authorities on 2 May 2014 in Odessa. As of early June 2015, possibly up to 18 individuals were still detained and several others placed under house arrest. Among those detained are Mr. Eliseev Vadim Alekseevich, Mr. Yankovski Igor Yurivich, Mr. Kolomeitsov Anatoly Borisovich, Mr. Nazarenko Vitaly, Mr. Cherep Dmitri Nikolaevich, and Mr. Shalamov Aleksandr. It is reported that multiple irregularities occurred during the arrests, house searches and detention of at least 11 of the 38 individuals, and that seven of them have been subjected to severe torture by Security Service of Ukraine forces. | 14/08/2015 |
| 26/06/2015<br>JAL | USA 13/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Summary executions;**<br>**Torture;** | Alleged violation of the right to life of an American citizen. According to the information received, on 15 May 2015, a federal U.S. jury advised that the death sentence be handed to a 21-year-old American citizen in relation to the Boston marathon bombings of April 2013 which led to the deaths of three people and injured 264 others. Concern is expressed at the imposition of the death penalty as well as that the death sentence imposed may further worsen the suffering of the victims and their families and be counterproductive to the efforts to definitely abolish this practice in the United States. | 04/11/2015 |

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| 26/06/2015<br>JAL | VEN 7/2015<br>**Venezuela** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Alegaciones de una campaña de desprestigio y represalias contra defensores de derechos humanos por su participación en una sesión del Comité del Pacto Internacional de Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales. Según las informaciones recibidas, el 2 y el 3 de junio de 2015, varias asociaciones venezolanas participaron en la 55ª sesión del Comité del Pacto Internacional de Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales, en la revisión del tercer informe periódico de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela. Durante las sesiones, el director general de la Comisión Nacional de Telecomunicaciones habría publicado mensajes en Twitter acerca del origen de financiamiento de las asociaciones presentes en las mismas. Además, el presidente de la delegación venezolana les habría acusado de cooperar con partidos políticos de derecha y de beneficiarse económicamente con su participación. El 3 de junio de 2015, el presidente de la Asamblea Nacional habría expresado públicamente críticas en contra del Sr. Rafael Uzcátegui, quien había viajado para participar en dichas sesiones. El 4 de junio de 2015, el Presidente de la Nación también habría criticado la participación de ciertas asociaciones en las sesiones. El Sr. Uzcátegui fue objeto de dos comunicaciones anteriores enviadas el 23 de marzo de 2012, véase A/HRC/21/49, VEN 1/2012 y el 8 de mayo de 2015, véase A/HRC/30/27, caso VEN 5/2015. Una comunicación fechada 19 de febrero de 2015, véase A/HRC/29/50, caso VEN 2/2015, también trataba de presuntas represalias en contra de defensores de derechos humanos por representantes políticos. | 29/09/2015 |

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| 29/06/2015<br>JAL | CAN 2/2015<br>**Canada** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;** | Allegations of protracted undue interference in the form of intrusive audits and threat of revocation of charitable status for registered charities. According to the information received, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), the body responsible for administering tax law, has been exercising its power under section 149.1(6.2) of the Income Tax Act of Canada in a way that has permitted the application of a very broad definition of what constitutes political activity. This in turn has led to excessive interference by CRA in monitoring and reviewing the objectives and activities of registered charities. The overall impact on registered charitable associations has been self-censorship by some of these associations, drain on their limited resources and revocation of charitable status for others. In the latter case this has meant that the individuals and charities which represent them by challenging laws and public policies have had their right to freedom of expression curtailed. | 29/06/2015 |
| 29/06/2015<br>JAL | ITA 3/2015<br>**Italy** | **Adequate housing; Minority issues;** | Letter concerning the decision taken by the Civil Section of the Tribunal of Rome concerning a Roma camp located on the outskirts of Rome. According to the information received, on 30 May 2015, the Civil Section of the Tribunal of Rome handed down a decision which held that the construction of the Roma camp La Barbuta by the City of Rome was indirectly discriminatory, breaching paragraph 2 of Decreto Legislativo 215/2003 (prohibition of discrimination), which is the implementing legislation of EU Directive 2000/43 (the Race Equality Directive). The settlement, which was constructed under the "Nomad Emergency Framework", is fenced and far from basic services, without access to work and livelihoods, and has allegedly substandard housing facilities. Implementation of the ruling will require dismantling of the camp and addressing the needs of the affected Roma community. The ruling does not stipulate specific time limits or modalities for doing so. The Special Rapporteurs call for transparent consultation with affected Romani families currently living in the settlement regarding the planning, development and implementation of non-discriminatory and adequate alternative housing solutions in line with Italy's human rights obligations. | |

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| 03/07/2015<br>JAL | ARM 1/2015<br>**Armenia** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Torture;** | Alleged excessive use of force by the police to disperse a peaceful demonstration in Yerevan, and subsequent arrest and detention of demonstrators, journalists and human rights monitors. According to the information received, on 22 June 2015, thousands of people took to the streets in Yerevan to peacefully protest against an increase of electricity prices. The police deemed the protest unlawful and blocked the march. They later reportedly dispersed it violently, using a water cannon, and beat protestors with truncheons and shields or suffocated them with their arms. Police officers also assaulted a dozen of journalists present at the site and destroyed their equipment, including cameras and mobile phones being used to record the police operation. 237 protestors, as well as journalists and human rights monitors, were arrested and later released. | 31/08/2015<br>06/10/2015 |
| 03/07/2015<br>UA | BLZ 1/2015<br>**Belize** | **Indigenous peoples;** | Allegations concerning the arrest and detention of 12 Maya people from the village of Santa Cruz in Toledo District, Belize, for their actions to remove from their village lands a non-Maya individual who was building a housing structure on ancient Maya ruins, in violation of Maya customary law and despite repeated requests to remove the structure. According to the information received, despite repeated attempts to involve local police in the removal of the non-Maya individual, on 20 June 2015, the non-Maya individual threatened villagers during a fajina (traditional meeting). The Mayan authorities handcuffed the individual and released him the next day. On 24 June 2015, local police removed 12 Mayan representatives from their homes and charged them with unlawful detention and some of them, in addition, with aggravated assault. The alcalde (local leader) of Santa Cruz and the spokesperson for the Maya Leaders Alliance were also charged with unlawful imprisonment. Concern is expressed that the arrest and detention of the Maya villagers was prompted by retaliation for their legal work to have their rights to their traditional lands recognized and protected by the Government. | |

| Date<br>Type | Case No<br>Country | Mandate(s) | Summary of the allegation transmitted | Reply |
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| 06/07/2015<br>JUA | IRQ 2/2015<br>**Iraq** | **Arbitrary detention; Disappearances; Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest, detention, torture and temporary enforced disappearance of an Iraqi intelligence agent of the federal police in Mosul. According to the information received, on 20 November 2014, Mr. Mohammed Abbas Kadhim al Sudani was arrested at his home in Baghdad by 15 members of the Special Weapons and Tactic force, a force belonging to the Iraqi Special Forces and headed by the Iraqi Counter-Terrorism Service, and detained incommunicado for about six months at the Al Muthanna airport detention centre, where he was allegedly subjected to torture and ill-treatment. His family was unaware of his fate and whereabouts until 4 May 2015, when the authorities informed them of his transfer to Taji Prison. It is alleged that his arrest and detention is directly related to the fact that he had been searching for his brother, Mr. Mustafa al Sudani, whose fate and whereabouts are unknown since 9 June 2014. Mr. Mohammed al Sudani did not have access to a lawyer, was not informed of the charges against him and has not yet been presented before a judge. He remains in detention awaiting his trial. | |
| 07/07/2015<br>JAL | IDN 3/2015<br>**Indonesia** | **Business enterprises; Environment; Human rights defenders; Mercenaries; Summary executions;** | Alleged beating, abduction and murder of environmental human rights defenders by private security guards hired by a subsidiary pulpwood supplier company in Indonesia. According to the information received, on 27 February 2015, Mr. Indra Pelani and Mr. Nick Karim engaged in an argument with private security officers at a checkpoint owned by Wira Karya Sakti, a subsidiary pulpwood supplier company of Asia Pulp and Paper – Sinar Mas Group. It is alleged that the argument became violent and that subsequently, Mr. Pelani was severely beaten by the private security officers while Mr. Karim managed to flee and seek help. When Mr. Karim returned with around 30 local villagers, Mr. Pelani had disappeared and the security guard on duty denied all knowledge of the incident. On 28 February 2015, Mr. Pelani's body tied with rope and his mouth stuffed with a T-shirt was discovered during a police search over five kilometres from the site of the attack. Mr. Pelani worked closely with Friends of the Earth Indonesia and was a member of the Tebo Farmers Union. A similar communication on this case has also been sent to Asia Pulp and Paper, see below, case no. OTH 3/2015. | |

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| 07/07/2015<br>JUA | MMR 7/2015<br>**Myanmar** | **Minority issues;**<br>**Myanmar;**<br>**Racism;** | Allegations of incitement to discrimination and violence against members of the Rohingya community by a prominent member of a political party. According to information received, a politician addressing a rally in Yangon in May 2015, can be seen in a video encouraging the crowd to "kill and bury" all the Rohingyas. The crowd can be heard cheering and repeating his statements. The same politician is also reported to have addressed another meeting in May 2015, where he called upon the public to demand to the authorities to "shoot boat people whenever sighted on the sea and border". Allegations of acts of discrimination based on race or religion have also been reported against the Rohingyas. It is alleged that this situation contributes to fuelling of inter-communal tensions and violence. | |
| 07/07/2015<br>JAL | OTH 3/2015<br>**Other** | **Business enterprises;**<br>**Environment;**<br>**Human rights defenders;**<br>**Mercenaries;**<br>**Summary executions;** | Alleged beating, abduction and murder of environmental human rights defenders by private security guards hired by a subsidiary pulpwood supplier company in Indonesia. According to the information received, on 27 February 2015, Mr. Indra Pelani and Mr. Nick Karim engaged in an argument with private security officers at a checkpoint owned by Wira Karya Sakti, a subsidiary pulpwood supplier company of Asia Pulp and Paper – Sinar Mas Group. It is alleged that the argument became violent and that subsequently, Mr. Pelani was severely beaten by the private security officers while Mr. Karim managed to flee and seek help. When Mr. Karim returned with around 30 local villagers, Mr. Pelani had disappeared and the security guard on duty denied all knowledge of the incident. On 28 February 2015, Mr. Pelani's body tied with rope and his mouth stuffed with a T-shirt was discovered during a police search over five kilometres from the site of the attack. Mr. Pelani worked closely with Friends of the Earth Indonesia and was a member of the Tebo Farmers Union. A similar communication on this case was also sent to the Government of Indonesia on 7 July 2015, see above, case no. IDN 3/2015. | 23/07/2015 |

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| 07/07/2015<br>JUA | SGP 1/2015<br>**Singapore** | **Freedom of expression; Health; Human rights defenders; Torture;** | Allegations concerning the prosecution, detention and sentencing of two bloggers, of which one minor, in relation to the legitimate and peaceful exercise of their right to freedom of opinion and expression. According to the information received, Mr. Roy Ngerng Yi Ling, a blogger and human rights defender writing on issues of government transparency and accountability, was charged for defamation following a blog critical of the Prime Minister. It is reported that he may be ordered to pay more than 250,000 USD in damages. Mr. Ngerng also lost his job at a hospital as a consequence of his blogs critical of the Government. On 6 July 2015, in another case, a 16-year-old blogger was sentenced to four weeks in prison, after being held in custody for more than 50 days, in relation to a cartoon and video criticizing public figures he had posted on his blog on the internet. It is reported that the 16-year-old was detained in Changi Remand Centre and the Institute for Mental Health under conditions that amount to torture, including under a regime akin to solitary confinement. | 23/12/2015 |
| 07/07/2015<br>JAL | THA 6/2015<br>**Thailand** | **Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Alleged threats against and intimidation of a lawyer for discharging her professional functions. According to the information received, Ms. Sirikan 'June' Charoensiri, a lawyer who volunteers with the association 'Thai Lawyers for Human Rights', is one of the counsels representing 14 students arrested on 26 June 2015 and charged with serious criminal offences before a military court. After the remand hearing of the students ended very early on 27 June, police officers tried to search Ms. Charoensiri's belongings, as well as her car, without a search warrant, which she opposed. The car was finally searched at approximately 3.30 p.m. after a court order was produced and five mobile phones belonging to her clients were seized. Ms. Charoensiri filed a complaint for abuse of power against the police despite the fact that she was threatened with prosecution when doing so. On 28 June, a police Commissioner allegedly told the press that they were considering prosecuting her over the alleged evidence found in her car. On 29 June, local police officers visited Ms. Charoensiri's parents and questioned them about her background. Concerns are expressed that the threats and intimidation against Ms. Charoensiri may have a 'chilling effect' on the independence of lawyers in Thailand. | 10/07/2015 |

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| 07/07/2015<br>AL | TZA 2/2015<br>**United Republic of Tanzania** | **Discrimination against women;** | Letter concerning discriminatory provisions against women in marital legislation. According to the information received, Law of Marriage Act of 1971 discriminates against women in sections 10(2) and 15 in that a man is allowed to have more than one wife thus permitting polygamous marriages if it is contracted in Islamic form or according to rites recognized by customary law in Tanzania and the husband is not married in a monogamous marriage. Furthermore, sections 10(2), 13(1) and 15 of the Law permit the marriage of girls at the age of 15, while the minimum age of marriage for boys is 18. In addition the Local Customary Law (Declaration) Order, Government Notice N. 279 of 1963 allows discrimination against women in a number of areas including bride-wealth, inheritance for widows and divorce. | |
| 08/07/2015<br>JAL | CHL 2/2015<br>**Chile** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Presunta solicitud de remoción de la directora del Instituto Nacional de Derechos Humanos (INDH) y críticas públicas hechas hacia este instituto debido a la publicación de un informe escolar de Derechos Humanos en el que se critica el accionar de Carabineros en el manejo de las protestas en 2011. Según las informaciones recibidas, entre abril y junio 2015, la directora del INDH, la Sra. Lorena Fries Monleón se habría visto amenazada en su cargo y la institución que representa fuertemente criticada a raíz de la publicación del "Informe de Derechos Humanos Para Estudiantes", destinado a la sensibilización en derechos humanos de alumnos de nivel séptimo básico a cuarto medio. | 12/10/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 09/07/2015<br>JAL | ECU 4/2015<br>**Ecuador** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Presunta advertencia de disolución de la Fundación Andina para la Observación y Estudio de Medios, Fundamedios, en aplicación del Decreto Ejecutivo No. 16. Según las informaciones recibidas, el 23 de junio de 2015, la Secretaría de Comunicación Nacional acusó a Fundamedios de llevar a cabo actividad política y manipular la opinión pública por fuera de su área de competencia; actividades consideradas causales de disolución según el Decreto Ejecutivo 16. Se reporta un entorno crecientemente restrictivo en Ecuador para el libre ejercicio de las libertades de expresión y asociación por motivo del Decreto Ejecutivo No. 16, así como de la Ley de Comunicación. El Decreto Ejecutivo No. 16 fue objeto de una comunicación previa el 16 de septiembre de 2013, referencia A/HRC/25/74, caso ECU 1/2013. El presunto cierre de una asociación, la Fundación Pachamama, basado en la aplicación del Decreto Ejecutivo No. 16 fue objeto de una comunicación el 31 de diciembre de 2013, referencia A/HRC/26/21, caso ECU 4/2013. El Proyecto de Ley Orgánica de Comunicación fue objeto de una comunicación el 19 de julio de 2012, referencia A/HRC/22/67, caso ECU 1/2012. El presunto entorno crecientemente restrictivo para las organizaciones de la sociedad civil, incluido en el marco normativo, fue, a su vez, objeto de las siguientes comunicaciones por parte de los Procedimientos Especiales: el 30 de noviembre de 2011, referencia A/HRC/19/44, caso ECU 3/2011, el 4 de octubre de 2013, referencia A/HRC/25/74, caso ECU 2/2013, y el 5 de septiembre de 2014, referencia A/HRC/28/85, caso ECU 2/2014. | 08/10/2015 |

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| 09/07/2015<br>JUA | VEN 8/2015<br>**Venezuela** | **Arbitrary detention; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Presunta detención arbitraria y procesamiento penal de un abogado por haber desempeñado sus funciones profesionales. Según la información recibida, el Sr. Tadeo Arrieche Franco es abogado y presta servicios profesionales a varios clientes, uno de los cuales es la empresa 'Día Día Supermercados'. Al principio del mes de febrero de 2015, esa empresa fue objeto de una serie de fiscalizaciones e inspecciones en sus establecimientos por parte de la Superintendencia Nacional para la Defensa de los Derechos Socioeconómicos, en el contexto de las cuales el Sr. Arrieche representó, como abogado externo, a su cliente. El Sr. Arrieche fue detenido el 8 de febrero de 2015. Fue imputado el 10 de febrero y acusado formalmente el 27 de marzo de 2015 de los delitos de 'boicot' y 'desestabilización de la economía nacional', previstos en los artículos 60 y 61 de la Ley Orgánica de Precios Justos, en base a las supuestas irregularidades cometidas por la empresa Día Día Supermercados. La audiencia preliminar estaría programada para el 7 de julio de 2015. A la fecha, el Sr. Arrieche se encuentra en detención preventiva en las instalaciones del Helicoide en Caracas. Se expresa seria preocupación por la detención y el procedimiento penal del Sr. Arrieche que parecen estar directamente relacionados con el desempeño de sus funciones profesionales como abogado. | 29/09/2015<br>29/12/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 10/07/2015<br>UA | MAR 4/2015<br>**Maroc** | **Freedom of expression;** | Allégations concernant des restrictions à la liberté d'expression d'un journaliste marocain, suite au refus des autorités marocaines de renouveler ses documents d'identité. Selon les informations reçues, en avril 2015, une fois l'interdiction d'exercer la profession de journaliste pendent 10 ans ordonnée à l'encontre de M. Ali Lmrabet expirée, ce dernier aurait commencé à réunir la documentation nécessaire en vue de relancer la publication au Maroc de revues qui avaient été interdites par les autorités en 2003. Cependant, les autorités marocaines auraient refusé de renouveler les papiers d'identité de M. Lmrabet, dont son passeport biométrique et son certificat de résidence. Il est allégué que sans document d'identité valable, M. Lmrabet ne pourrait pas voyager, ni réaliser aucune démarche administrative, notamment en vue du lancement d'un nouveau journal ou magazine. Des préoccupations sont exprimées sur les conséquences de ce refus sur l'exercice des droits de M. Lmrabet, en particulier le droit à la liberté d'expression, comme énoncés à l'article 19 du Pacte international relatif aux droits civils et politiques ratifié par le Maroc, le droit de circuler librement et le droit de choisir librement sa résidence, comme formulés à l'article 12 du Pacte. | 10/09/2015 |

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| 10/07/2015<br>JUA | MEX 6/2015<br>**México** | **Arbitrary detention; Disappearances; Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture;** | Presuntas alegaciones de detención arbitraria de 12 personas procesadas en relación al "caso Ayotzinapa", en México, y alegaciones de tortura y malos tratos en su contra. Según la información recibida, la Sra. Verónica Bahena Cruz y los Sres. Santiago Manzón Cedillo, Héctor Aguilar Ávalos, Alejandro Lara García, Edgar Magdaleno Navarro Cruz y Jesús Parra Arroyo, policías de los municipios de Iguala y Cocula, Estado de Guerrero, así como los Sres. Marco Antonio Ríos Berber, Raúl Núñez Salgado, Agustín García Reyes, Jonathan Osorio Cortez, Patricio Reyes Landa y Carlos Canto Salgado, habrían sido detenidos, torturados y procesados en relación al caso de la desaparición forzada de 43 estudiantes y la ejecución de otras seis personas en Iguala, Estado de Guerrero, entre el 26 y el 27 de septiembre de 2014. Cuatro de las 12 personas procesadas han sido mencionadas por el ex Procurador General de la República como testigos claves en el esclarecimiento de los hechos sucedidos en Iguala. Tanto el caso de la desaparición forzada de los 43 estudiantes y la ejecución de las otras seis personas, como otros casos relativos a violaciones derivadas de estos sucesos, han sido objeto de comunicaciones previas por parte de los Procedimiento Especiales, con fecha de 3 de octubre de 2014, véase A/HRC/28/85, caso no. MEX 21/2014; 16 de diciembre de 2014, véase A/HRC/29/50, caso no. MEX 26/2014; y 25 de febrero de 2015, véase A/HRC/29/50, caso no. MEX 1/2015. | 28/10/2015 |
| 10/07/2015<br>JAL | USA 15/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Haiti; Health; Migrants; Torture;** | Alleged forcible returns of medically vulnerable individuals with long-time lawful U.S. permanent resident status and criminal convictions to post-earthquake Haiti. According to the information received, between 2011 and 2015, the United States of America continued to regularly deport to Haiti individuals with criminal records and serious mental and physical illnesses or other disabilities, disregarding the fact that they had been long-time lawful permanent U.S. residents with deep family ties to the United States of America and little to no family in Haiti. | 11/09/2015 |

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| 13/07/2015<br>UA | BGR 1/2015<br>**Bulgaria** | **Minority issues;** | Alleged imminent forced eviction of two Roma families within a wider context of recent evictions orders affecting solely Romani-owned houses. According to the information received, the two Roma families, including eight children, of whom two with severe disabilities, and one eight month pregnant mother, are scheduled to be forcibly evicted from their homes in Gurmen municipality on 13 July 2015 under orders from the Directorate for National Construction Control (DNCC). Reportedly, the evictions will take place despite the urgent interim measures issued on 10 July 2015 by the European Court of Human Rights to stop the execution of the demolition order. It is further reported that these pending evictions take place in the context of other recent evictions of Roma households in Gurmen municipality carried out under other orders of the DNCC, including that of four Roma families, including fifteen children. There is reportedly also an ongoing threat of the demolition of a large number of other Romani households in Gurmen municipality with the issuance of 124 eviction orders by DNCC for other houses in the community. If carried out, these will affect approximately 700 Roma people. Allegedly these evictions have targeted solely Romani-owned houses and authorities have failed to engage in comprehensive consultations with the affected Roma community and provide information and propose appropriate alternatives to them. | 07/08/2015 |

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| 13/07/2015<br>JUA | USA 17/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Summary executions;**<br>**Torture;** | Allegations concerning the imposition of the death penalty on a person with a severe mental health condition after judicial proceedings that did not comply with the most stringent due process and fair trial guarantees. According to the information received, Mr. David Zink was sentenced to death in 2004 for a murder committed in Missouri. Despite several testimonies of his severe mental illness which rendered Mr. Zink incompetent to be executed, the Supreme Court of Missouri upheld his sentence on 24 February 2009. Mr. Zink is reportedly due to be executed on 14 July 2015. Concerns are raised that the death penalty may have been imposed, and may be carried out, against Mr. Zink after judicial proceedings which did not comply with the most stringent due process and fair trial guarantees and that the authorization granted to him by the judge to waive his right to counsel and to represent himself, despite his severe mental health condition, may have influenced the subsequent decisions of the courts. | 20/07/2015 |
| 14/07/2015<br>JUA | BRA 2/2015<br>**Brazil** | **Adequate housing;**<br>**Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Water and Sanitation;** | Alleged imminent eviction of approximately 20,000 persons residing in three urban informal settlements in the State of Minas Gerais. According to the information received, the families residing in the urban informal settlements of Esperança, Vitória e Rosa Leão, Isidoro region, are facing imminent eviction from their homes without having been offered any alternative accommodation or housing options, thereby risking homelessness. Residents have reportedly been challenging their eviction since August 2014 through courts without success. Information further suggests that on 19 June 2015, the police reportedly violently repressed a peaceful protest against the eviction, which resulted in over 50 people being injured, including young children and older persons. | |

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| 15/07/2015<br>JAL | BGD 3/2015<br>**Bangladesh** | **Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Truth, justice, reparation & guarantees on non-rec;** | Allegations relative to judicial proceedings, with no access to appeal procedures, against a journalist and a group of 23 individuals for exercising their legitimate right to freedom of expression. According to the information received, on 2 December 2014, Mr. David Bergman, a journalist, was convicted and sentenced by the International Crimes Tribunal of Bangladesh under contempt of court charges for having published on his blog three articles challenging the 'death figure' of the 1971 Liberation War and expressing criticism of the Tribunal. Reportedly after 49 persons signed a letter expressing concern at his conviction, 23 of them were charged for contempt and, on 10 June 2015, one of the signatories, Mr. Zafrullah Chowdhury, was found guilty by the Tribunal. It is further reported that the law does not provide access to appeal in such cases. Following a petition with the High Court division of the Supreme Court, Mr. Chowdhury made an "Application for Complete Justice" at the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, the hearing of which is due to take place on 26 July 2015. | |
| 15/07/2015<br>JUA | CHN 6/2015<br>**China (People's Republic of)** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest and detention, in some cases incommunicado, or questioning of more than 140 lawyers and other persons associated to their work, as well as unknown fate and whereabouts of 12 of them. According to the information received, since 9 July 2015, more than 140 lawyers and other persons associated to their work, including law firm employees, legal staff and human rights defenders, have been detained or questioned by the police throughout the country. Seven individuals, including four lawyers, are in police custody to this date; among them are Ms. Wang Yu, a well-known lawyer based in Beijing, and her husband, Mr. Bao Longjun. Three other individuals, including two lawyers, are under residential surveillance at unknown locations. 12 persons, including three lawyers, have also reportedly disappeared in unknown circumstances and their fate and whereabouts are unknown to date. Serious concern is expressed as most of the lawyers, if not all, had been working on human rights-related and other politically sensitive cases. | 09/10/2015 |

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| 16/07/2015<br>AL | KWT 4/2015<br>**Kuwait** | **Freedom of expression;** | Alleged illegal revocation of the broadcasting and publication licenses of Al Watan TV Channel and the Dar Al Watan Journalism Printing and Publishing Company and closure of their premises. According to the information received, the authorities alleged that both entities had not met their financial and commercial requirements in order to continue to broadcast and publish. Kuwaiti domestic legislation does not refer to specific financial requirements as a basis for revoking a media license. Despite ongoing judicial procedures to challenge the legality of the revocation of the Dar Al Watan Journalism Printing and Publishing Company license issued on 18 January 2015, and a judicial decision of 11 February 2015 rescinding this ruling, its premises were closed. The authorities also closed the Al-Watan TV channel after revoking its license on 4 June 2015, and removed the employees from the property, without the necessary court decision. | 17/08/2015 |
| 16/07/2015<br>JUA | SDN 5/2015<br>**Sudan** | **Discrimination against women; Sudan; Torture; Violence against women;** | Allegations concerning the arrest of 12 female students and charges against 10 of them for indecent dress, risking corporal punishment of up to 40 lashes. According to the information received, on 25 June 2015, the Public Order Police arrested 12 female students between 17 and 23 years old in front of the Evangelical Baptist Church, Khartoum, where they had attended a ceremony, and took them to a local police station. Two of the students were released about four hours after their arrest. The 10 others were released on bail on 27 June 2015 but charged with "indecent dress" under Article 152 of Sudan's 1991 Criminal Act. The punishment, if found guilty, is 40 lashes or a fine or both. In practice the law has been reported to be used exclusively against women. One of the students, aged 17, appeared in court on 7 July 2015 and, because of her age, was transferred to a Juvenile Court. It is reported that the other nine students, have appeared or will appear in court on 9, 13, 16 and 17 July 2015. | |

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| 16/07/2015<br>JUA | THA 7/2015<br>**Thailand** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Alleged arbitrary detention, prosecution and trial before a military court of 14 students belonging to the Neo Democracy Movement due to their participation in peaceful protests. According to the information received, on 26 June 2015, police forces arrested Ms. Chonticha Chaengreo, Mr. Rangsiman Rome, Mr. Wasant Sadesit, Mr. Songtham Kaewpanphruek, Mr. Payu Boonsopon, Mr. Apiwat Suntararak, Mr. Rattapol Supasophon, Mr. Supachai Pookhlongploy, Mr. Apisit Sapnapaphan, Mr. Panupong Sritananuwat, Mr. Suvicha Pitungkorn, Mr. Pakorn Areekul, Mr. Chatupat Boonyapatraksa, and Mr. Pornchai Yuanyee in execution of an arrest warrant issued by the Bangkok Military Court following their participation in a series of peaceful demonstrations to protest against the 2014 coup d'état and forced evictions of rural communities in north-eastern Thailand. They were charged with breaching National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) No. 3/2015, which prohibits gatherings of more than five people, and article 116 of the Criminal Code ('sedition'). They face up to seven years in prison under the sedition charges, and up to six months' imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 Baht (about 279 USD) for violating the NCPO. On 27 June, the Bangkok Military Court decided the remand in custody of the 14 students for 12 days. On 7 July, it ordered their unconditional release, while maintaining the charges brought against them. Ms. Sirikan Charoensiri, one of the lawyers representing the students, who was reportedly the victim of threats and acts of intimidation in relation to the discharge of her professional duties in the present case, was the subject of a previous communication sent on 7 July 2015, see above, case no. THA 6/2015. | 20/07/2015 |
| 20/07/2015<br>JAL | ARG 2/2015<br>**Argentina** | **Food; Water and Sanitation;** | Presunta violación de los derechos al agua y saneamiento y a la alimentación. Según la información recibida, los residentes del oeste del Estado de la Pampa aún padecen de la falta de agua potable. El Gobierno de Argentina habría recibido una carta de alegación a este respecto el 17 de abril de 2014, enviada por el Relator Especial sobre el derecho humano al agua potable y al saneamiento y la Relatora Especial sobre el derecho a la alimentación. | |

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| 20/07/2015<br>JAL | VEN 9/2015<br>**Venezuela** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Alegaciones de represalias contra defensores de derechos humanos a través de transmisiones del canal estatal Venezolano de Televisión. Según las informaciones recibidas, el 5 de diciembre de 2014, los defensores de derechos humanos Sres. Alfredo Romero, Feliciano Reyna y Rafael Uzcátegui habrían realizado un taller sobre cómo acceder a los mecanismos de defensa de derechos humanos establecidos en los instrumentos internacionales. El 29 y 30 de junio de 2015, los Sres. Carlos Correa, Humberto Prado Sifontes y Alfredo Romero y las Sras. Rocío San Miguel, Ligia Bolívar y Tamara Sujú habrían participado en una sesión del Comité de Derechos Humanos en la sede de las Naciones Unidas en Ginebra. El 1 de julio de 2015, el presidente de la Asamblea Nacional en su programa semanal 'Con el mazo dando', transmitido por el canal estatal venezolano de Televisión, habría divulgado datos específicos acerca de estas actividades. Los defensores y defensoras mencionados han sido objeto de comunicaciones anteriores fechadas el 11 de julio de 2011, no. VEN 2/2011, véase A/HRC/19/44, el 23 de marzo de 2012, no. VEN 1/2012, véase A/HRC/21/49, el 11 de junio de 2012, no. VEN 4/2012, le 16 noviembre de 2012, no. VEN 7/2012, véase A/HRC/22/67, el 3 de marzo de 2014, no. VEN 1/2014 véase A/HRC/27/72, el 19 de febrero de 2015, no. VEN 2/2015, véase A/HRC/29/50, el 8 de mayo de 2015, no. VEN 5/2015, véase A/HRC/30/27 y el 26 de julio de 2015, no. VEN 7/2015. | |

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| 20/07/2015<br>JUA | VEN 10/2015<br>**Venezuela** | **Health; Human rights defenders;** | Presunta intensificación del desabastecimiento de insumos y medicamentos, en especial para los grupos médicamente más vulnerables y presuntos actos de hostigamiento, intimidación y represalias de autoridades públicas contra defensores del derecho a la salud, incluyendo personal médico-sanitario. Según la información recibida, el desabastecimiento de insumos médicos y medicamentos en Venezuela se habría intensificado y, en estos momentos, habría una falta absoluta de tratamientos esenciales para personas trasplantadas, con lupus, artritis y cáncer. Además, el Sr. Francisco Valencia, presidente de Coalición de Organizaciones por el Derecho a la Salud y la Vida, habría, recientemente, sido objeto de actos de intimidación y represalias por su trabajo en defensa del derecho a la salud y su cooperación con las Naciones Unidas, sus representantes y mecanismos en la esfera de los derechos humanos, en particular con el Comité de Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales. El desabastecimiento de insumos y medicamentos fue objeto de una comunicación anterior enviada el 9 de abril de 2014, véase A/HRC/27/72, caso no. VEN 2/2014. | 29/09/2015<br>09/12/2015 |
| 21/07/2015<br>JAL | EGY 11/2015<br>**Egypt** | **Democratic and equitable international order; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Freedom of religion; Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions; Terrorism; Torture;** | Alleged non-compliance of the draft national anti-terrorism law with a number of provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. According to the information received, on 2 July 2015, the Egyptian State Council approved a number of amendments to the Egyptian anti-terrorism law. The draft law should enter into force after the President approves it. The amendments were reportedly introduced after the killing of the prosecutor general in a car bomb attack in Cairo on 29 June 2015, and a number of simultaneous attacks launched on several checkpoints in North Sinai, in early July 2015. Reportedly several proposed provisions of the draft anti-terrorism law would be incompatible with Egypt's international human rights obligations, particularly as they arise from Articles 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14 to 22 and 26 of the Covenant. | 05/08/2015 |

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| 21/07/2015<br>JUA | SRB 2/2015<br>**Serbia** | **Adequate housing; Internally displaced persons; Minority issues;** | Alleged imminent eviction of approximately 40 Roma households residing in the informal settlement of Grmec in Zemun, Belgrade. According to the information received, most of these families, estimated between 200 and 250 people, many of them internally displaced from Kosovo, have been residing in the settlement since 1999, though most of them have not been able to officially register as residents of Belgrade. Among the residents at risk of imminent eviction there are a high number of children, including at least four infants, as well as two pregnant women. No alternative accommodation or resettlement plan has been offered to them. These 40 families face immediate eviction from their homes due to an eviction order issued on 7 July 2015 by the Construction Inspectorate of the Municipality of Zemun. | 25/08/2015 |
| 22/07/2015<br>AL | BRA 3/2015<br>**Brazil** | **Summary executions;** | Allegations concerning the killing of a man by police in the city of Vitoria do Mearim, State of Maranhão. According to the information received, on 28 May 2015, Mr. Iraldo Batalha, a mechanic, left his home on the back of a motorcycle driven by a friend to watch a football game in Vitória do Mearim. At the entrance of the city a military police control was however set up. Reportedly, when Mr. Batalha and his friend passed the erected barrier, the police opened fire on them. Mr. Batalha's friend was reportedly shot once in the foot, while Mr. Batalha himself was shot in his lower back and fell on the ground. It is reported that a person dressed in boots and camouflage trousers subsequently approached Mr. Batalha when he was lying unconscious on the ground, moved his face with his foot and shot him twice. Two other men wearing bullet proof vests reportedly took the body of Mr. Batalha and placed it into a vehicle belonging to the military police. Serious concern is expressed at the murder of Mr. Batalha and at the reports indicating that a civil servant of the city of Vitoria do Mearim might have perpetrated this violent attack. | |

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| 22/07/2015<br>JAL | MEX 7/2015<br>**México** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;**<br>**Indigenous peoples;** | Alegaciones de amenazas de muerte, vigilancia e intento de secuestro contra defensores y defensoras de derechos humanos. Según la información recibida, el 10 de febrero de 2014, la Sra. Ruiz Martínez y los Sres. Carlos Sánchez y Mariano López Gómez recibieron amenazas de muerte por teléfono. El 10 de abril de 2014, un colega habría recibido una llamada advirtiéndole de la intención de secuestrar a la Sra. Ruiz Martínez. El mismo día, la Sra. Ruiz Martínez habría sido perseguida por dos mujeres que habrían intentado privarla ilegalmente de su libertad. El 8 de julio de 2014, la organización Código-DH habría recibido dos llamadas amenazantes. El 5 de noviembre de 2014, el Sr. Sánchez y las Sras. Ruiz Martínez y Jiménez Salinas habrían recibido llamadas amenazantes relacionadas con su trabajo. El 11 de noviembre de 2014, los Sres. Rodrigo Flores Peñaloza y Mariano López Gómez habrían sido amenazados de muerte, el segundo con arma de fuego. El 16 de abril la Sra. Bettina Cruz y el Sr. Flores Peñaloza habrían sido agredidos y perseguidos. Desde el 3 de diciembre de 2014 hasta el 20 de abril de 2015, se habrían registrado un total de 22 incidentes contra los integrantes de Codigo DH. La organización fue objeto de dos comunicaciones anteriores con fecha de 16 de mayo de 2012, véase A/HRC/21/49, caso no. MEX 12/2012; y el 26 de noviembre de 2013, véase A/HRC/25/74, caso no. MEX 10/2013. | 13/10/2015<br>13/10/2015 |

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| 23/07/2015<br>JAL | MAR 5/2015<br>**Maroc** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Allégations concernant des entraves administratives restreignant les activités d'associations marocaines œuvrant pour la promotion du droit à la vie privée et des mesures d'intimidation exercées à l'encontre des défenseurs des droits de l'homme. Selon les informations reçues, l'association des droits numériques (ADN) serait confrontée à d'importantes entraves administratives qui ne lui permettraient pas de conclure les démarches nécessaires requises pour exercer légalement ses activités sur le territoire marocain. Il est également rapporté que lors de la conférence de presse organisée par l'ADN le 5 mai 2015 dans le but de présenter un rapport dénonçant des pratiques alléguées de surveillance de journalistes et activistes par les autorités marocaines, plusieurs policiers et personnels anti-émeute armés auraient été présents sur les lieux perturbant l'arrivée des journalistes. D'autres mesures d'intimidation auraient été également rapportées, dont l'ouverture supposée d'une enquête judiciaire contre les auteurs du dit rapport. Des policiers en tenue civile se seraient également adressés à des membres de la famille ainsi qu'à des connaissances de M. X, connu sous le pseudonyme de M. Hicham Almiraat, et de Mme Karima Nadir, respectivement Président et Secrétaire générale de l'association ADN, les questionnant sur les activités et déplacements de ces derniers. Des allégations relatives au refus d'enregistrement d'une association au Maroc ont fait l'objet d'une communication préalable le 4 septembre 2014, référence A/HRC/28/85, cas MAR 6/2014. | |

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| 24/07/2015<br>JAL | BRA 1/2015<br>**Brazil** | **Business enterprises; Hazardous substances and wastes; Health; Water and Sanitation;** | Allegations concerning the inadequate response to the contamination and poisoning of the environment and citizens in Piquiá de Baixo, Açailândia, Maranhão State, Amazon Region, in follow-up to the Government's response to the previous communication of 5 November 2014. According to the information received, the Government has failed to activate previously formulated plans to resettle the population affected by the contamination in Piquiá de Baixo, caused by the iron and steel industry operating in the region, and to disburse the resources that would prevent, inter alia, aggravation of its health impact on the affected families. It is reported that residents continue to suffer from pollution despite the instalment of filters by the steel companies and that access to healthcare facilities for the affected victims remains inadequate. The previous communication was sent on 9 January 2014, see A/HRC/29/50, case no. BRA 6/2013. | |
| 24/07/2015<br>UA | FRA 4/2015<br>**France** | **Minority issues;** | Allégation d'expulsion forcée de personnes Roms. Selon les informations reçues, entre le 7 et 9 juillet 2015, plus de 500 personnes Roms des villes de Ris Orangis, Ivry sur Seine et Porte d'Aubervillers auraient été expulsées. L'expulsion forcée aurait été menée sans consultation préalable et une solution de relogement convenable n'aurait pas été fournie à toutes les familles. | 22/09/2015 |
| 24/07/2015<br>JUA | GMB 2/2015<br>**Gambia** | **Summary executions; Torture;** | Allegations concerning the introduction of the Act to amend the 1997 Constitution of the Gambia which, if adopted, would expand the list of offences punishable by death in the country. According to the information received, in June 2015, the Government announced a plan to hold a referendum on the Act to amend the 1997 Constitution of the Gambia expanding the list of offences punishable by death to any crime deemed sufficiently serious by the National Assembly. Should the Act pass, the law maker would be able to pass bills imposing the death penalty for any crime it deems fit, effectively lifting the existing constitutional restrictions for its imposition. Furthermore, on 17 July 2015, the President of the Gambia announced on state television that the law will be applied to the letter for murderers, without mercy or exception. Many interlocutors expressed concern that the speech could be interpreted as a warning that executions of death row inmates may resume. A communication regarding a previous resumption of executions in the Gambia was sent on 28 August 2012, see A/HRC/22/67, case no. GMB 1/2012. | |

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| 24/07/2015<br>JUA | ISR 3/2015<br>**Israel** | **Health; OPT; Torture;** | Allegations concerning a proposed amendment to the Prisons Act which, if adopted, would violate the absolute and non-derogable prohibition of torture and other ill-treatment by allowing for force-feeding of detainees on hunger strike in Israeli detention. According to the information received, a draft amendment to the Prisons Act approved at its first reading in June 2014 is now awaiting its second and third reading at the Israeli Knesset after the continuation of the draft amendment's legislative process from the last Knesset was approved. The proposed amendment, if adopted, would permit a district court to allow for the force-feeding and medical treatment of prisoners on hunger strike against their will and encourage medical teams to force-feed prisoners on hunger strike while freeing them of any liability for such acts. It is reported that particularly Palestinian detainees held by Israel, including those under administrative detention, who decide to use hunger strike as a form of protest, will be affected. It is further reported that not a single prisoner or detainee on hunger strike in Israeli detention has died as a result of the hunger strike itself, but that five have died due to force feeding. The bill on force-feeding was the subject of a previous communication sent on 20 June 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. ISR 5/2014. | 14/08/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 24/07/2015<br>JAL | NPL 1/2015<br>**Nepal** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of religion;** | Alleged incompatibility of provisions relating to the freedom of religion or belief in the new draft constitution of Nepal with international human rights standards. According to the information received, article 31 subsections 1 and 2 of the draft constitution do not provide for the freedom to convert while subsection 3 bans "any act to convert another person from one religion to another". Furthermore, subsection 3 of article 31 contains a broad and vague reference to "any act or behaviour [which may] undermine or jeopardize the religion of each other" that is also punishable by law. Although it is noted that Section 22 subsection 2(a) of the current draft constitution guarantees the right to freedom of opinion and expression, this right may be derogated from on the several grounds, including defamation, or incitement to an offence, or any act which is deemed contrary to public decency or morality (Section 22, subsection 2(1)). These provisions, if adopted in their current form, would seriously curtail the right to freedom of religion or belief and freedom of opinion and expression as provided by international human rights law. | |
| 24/07/2015<br>JAL | NOR 1/2015<br>**Norway** | **Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Alleged investigation of a human rights organization in relation to the peaceful and legitimate human rights activities of the organization and its President. According to the information received, on 27 May 2015, officials of the Norwegian Authority for Investigation and Prosecution of Economic Crime ("Økokrim") raided the offices of the Global Network for Rights and Development (GNRD) in Stavanger, Norway, and the home of its President, Mr. Loai Deeb. GNRD and Mr. Deeb were informed at that time that they were under investigation for money laundering. It is reported that both Mr. Deeb and GNRD staff members were questioned about their human rights activities and the work of GNRD. It is alleged that the raids were carried out in violation of due process, in particular concerning the documentation of the raids, confiscation of materials, notification of rights and adherence to the powers granted to the officials by search warrants. Two members of GNRD were the subject of a previous communication, in relation to their alleged temporary disappearance followed by arbitrary detention and subsequent denial to leave Qatar, sent on 2 October 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. QAT 2/2014. | 22/09/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 24/07/2015<br>JUA | PAK 5/2015<br>**Pakistan** | **Disability; Health; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged torture in prison and imminent execution of a detainee with a physical disability. According to the information received, in 2008, Mr. Abdul Basit, a Pakistani national, was arrested for the murder of the uncle of one of the students registered at 'Independent College' where he worked. On 19 May 2009, he was convicted for murder and sentenced to death. On 12 June 2012, the High Court of Pakistan dismissed his appeal and, on 13 December 2012, the Supreme Court rejected a second appeal. Mr. Basit is detained at the Central Jail Faisalabad without adequate medical care and consideration for his permanent paralysis, which is a consequence of the severe detention conditions he has been subjected to. In January 2013, after the exhaustion of all local remedies, Mr. Basit's family submitted a mercy petition requesting a commutation of his sentence on the basis of, inter alia, his disability based on Rule 107(iv) of the Pakistan Prison Rules (1978). This petition was rejected and the execution warrant for Mr. Basit could be issued at any time. | |
| 24/07/2015<br>JAL | RUS 3/2015<br>**Russian Federation** | **Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders;** | Allegations concerning the arrest, interrogation and extremism charges brought against a human rights defender in relation to his human rights activities. According to the information received, on 13 May 2015, investigators from the Centre for Combating Extremism in Tolyatti searched Mr. Konstantin Golava's apartment and confiscated technical equipment. A search warrant was presented to Mr. Golava at the time based on criminal charges brought against him of 'Incitement of National, Racial, or Religious Enmity' (extremism) in connection with statements he published on a social network website in 2014 regarding the role of the Russian authorities in the events in Ukraine. Following the search, Mr. Golava was arrested and detained for questioning before being released later that same day. On 14 May 2015, the Federal Financial Monitoring Service of the Russian Federation reportedly added Mr. Golava's name to the 'list of active extremists'. Concern is expressed at the arrest, interrogation and criminal charges brought against Mr. Golava, which may be linked to his legitimate human rights activities, as well as at the deterrent effect this may have on the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression in the Russian Federation. | 29/09/2015 |

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| 24/07/2015<br>JAL | TUN 1/2015<br>**Tunisie** | **Democratic and equitable international order; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Freedom of religion; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Terrorism; Torture;** | Non-conformité présumée de divers articles d'un projet de loi organique relatif à la lutte contre le terrorisme et à la répression du blanchiment d'argent avec un certain nombre de dispositions du Pacte international relatif aux droits civils et politiques. Selon les informations reçues, plusieurs dispositions du projet de loi n° 2015-22 relatif à la lutte contre le terrorisme et à la répression du blanchiment d'argent soulèveraient des questions quant à leur compatibilité avec les obligations internationales de la Tunisie en matière de droits de l'homme, notamment les articles 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12 à 22 et 26 du Pacte. | |
| 28/07/2015<br>JUA | PAK 6/2015<br>**Pakistan** | **Disability; Health; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged imminent execution, torture and ill-treatment of a person with a psychosocial disability. According to the information received, in 2003, Mr. Khizar Hayat, a Pakistani national and former police officer, was convicted and sentenced to death for the alleged murder of a fellow police officer under section 302 of the Pakistan Penal Code. To date, Mr. Hayat has spent over 12 years on death row. Despite having being diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia by the detention authorities in 2008, he has never received adequate treatment for his condition, which has continued to deteriorate and made him the target of abuse and attacks by fellow inmates. On 25 July 2015, the Sessions Court in Lahore temporarily stayed Mr. Hayat's execution, following an application by Mr. Hayat's lawyer challenging the legality of the warrant on the basis of Mr. Hayat's psychosocial disability, and a hearing on the issue is scheduled for 30 July 2015. Concern is expressed at the imminent execution, torture and ill-treatment of Mr. Hayat, in contravention of international human rights law. | |

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| 29/07/2015<br>JUA | IRN 11/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Iran; Summary executions;** | Allegations concerning the imminent execution of a juvenile offender. According to the information received, Mr. Salar Shadizadi faces imminent execution for a killing that occurred in February 2007 when he was 15 years old. He was sentenced to death in December 2007 and remained on death row for several years before being transferred to solitary confinement in preparation for execution in 2013. His execution was halted in time to allow him to submit a request for judicial review, as he was under 18 years of age at the time of the offence and article 91 of the revised Penal Code allows courts to review such cases. The Legal Medicine Organisation found no evidence of insanity at the time of the murder and could not conclude anything about his growth or maturity in the seven years since. In the absence of evidence to rebut the presumption that boys at the age of 15 are mentally mature, the Supreme Court upheld his death sentence. | |
| 29/07/2015<br>JAL | SSD 1/2015<br>**South Sudan** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Allegations concerning the imminent entry into force of the Non-Governmental Organization Bill, 2015, containing provisions that contravene international human rights law and standards. According to the information received, on 13 May 2014, the National Legislative Assembly of South Sudan passed the Non-Governmental Organization Bill, 2015. Its provisions, which include definitions of the permissible work and objectives of associations, regulations of the associations' work, registration and revocation procedures and penalties against members of associations, reportedly do not comply with international human rights law and standards pertaining to the right to freedom of association. The Bill is reportedly awaiting signature by the President in order to be adopted. The Non-Governmental Organization Bill, 2013, when under Parliamentary consideration, was the subject of two earlier communications sent on 4 December 2013, see A/HRC/26/21, case no. SSD 1/2013, and on 23 October 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case SSD 1/2014. | |

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| 29/07/2015<br>JUA | SYR 1/2015<br>**Syrian Arab Republic** | **Health; Water and Sanitation;** | Alleged disconnection of piped water supply in the city of Aleppo, Syria, for almost a month, resulting in a lack of adequate access to safe drinking water and sanitation at homes, hospitals and health facilities. According to the information received, the lack of adequate access to safe drinking water and sanitation, considered in the context of the heat wave occurring in the region, is believed to have contributed directly to an increase in the number of cases of illness, including 3,000 cases of moderate diarrhoea in children recorded in July 2015 alone. The disconnections are reportedly either deliberately performed by parties to the current armed conflict, or occur as a result of the destruction of the infrastructure due to the intensified air strikes and other attacks by the different parties to the conflict, including Government forces. A previous communication on water cut-offs in Aleppo was sent on 14 May 2014, see A/HRC/27/72, case no. SYR 6/2014. | 15/09/2015 |
| 30/07/2015<br>JAL | IRN 10/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Independence of judges and lawyers; Iran;** | Allegations concerning the introduction of restrictions on the right to a fair trial by a new Code of Criminal Procedure in Iran. According to the information received, on 22 June 2015, a new Code of Criminal Procedure came into force in which the right to access to a lawyer during the investigative phase could be limited to choosing counsel from a roster approved by the Head of the Judiciary. The same restrictions apply to individuals facing crimes against national or foreign security, political and press crimes as well as crimes punishable by the death sentence or life imprisonment. The new Code also reportedly allows the right to a lawyer to be waived by the judiciary for up to a week in these cases, as well as removes the provision that discredited the investigation of cases in which the defendant's right to a lawyer during the investigative phase was withheld or not properly implemented. Concern is expressed that the new Code of Criminal Procedure appears to weaken or abrogate some of the positive measures introduced in the Code approved in April 2014, thereby undermining fair trial and due process guarantees. | |

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| 30/07/2015<br>JAL | IRQ 3/2015<br>**Iraq** | **Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions;** | Allegations concerning the arrest and detention of four lawyers, and the summary execution of one of them, for discharging their professional duties. According to the information received, Mr. Mouayad Obeed al-Ezzi, Mr. Ziad Ghanem Shaaban al-Naseri, Mr. Salah Khabbas al-Obeidi and Mr. Badee Aref Izzat were arrested, temporarily detained and interrogated, and Mr. Al-Obeidi, killed, between November 2011 and March 2014, in relation to the discharge of their professional functions as lawyers defending individuals in politically sensitive cases. With regard to the case of Mr. Al-Obeidi, who was killed by an unidentified armed group on 24 March 2013, it is reported that no investigation has been carried out to date to identify the perpetrators and bring them to justice. Concern is expressed that these cases may show a possible pattern of intimidation and harassment of lawyers who take up politically sensitive cases. | |
| 30/07/2015<br>AL | ISR 5/2015<br>**Israel** | **Discrimination against women;** | Letter concerning discriminatory provisions against women in relation to marital status in personal laws and practices applicable in Israel. According to the information received, under Article 51(a) of the British Mandatory Law of 1922, which is still in force today, all recognized religious communities in Israel have their own religious legal courts. The Rabbinical Courts Jurisdiction (Marriage and Divorce) Law 5713-1953 cedes jurisdiction over marriage and divorce of Jewish women to the rabbinical courts which adjudicate in accordance with religious Jewish law, which discriminates against women in various ways. Most importantly, refusal of a husband to divorce his wife, whatever the grounds she has for filing a divorce, deprives a woman of any way of obtaining such a divorce and remarrying. These incapacities are not symmetrically imposed on men whose wives refuse to accept a divorce. The Shari'a courts, which adjudicate in accordance with Muslim religious law, discriminate against women as regards ease of divorce for women as compared with men, including possible deprivation of the custody of children after widowhood or divorce if the woman remarries. | 07/10/2015 |

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| 30/07/2015<br>JAL | KGZ 2/2015<br>**Kyrgyz Republic** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Allegations of increased targeting of human rights defenders and civil society organizations, by both State and non-State actors, including in the context of retrogressive draft legislations and amendments. According to the information received, in April 2015, Mr. Dmitry Kabak, President of the Open Viewpoint Public Foundation, was subjected to actions of harassment and targeting by public officials and offices, restricting his right to privacy and interfering with his legitimate human rights work. Furthermore, two human rights lawyers, Mr. Khusanbay and Mr. Valerian Vakhitow, were allegedly subject to searches and seizure of documents without warrant or undergoing investigation. The Human Rights Advocacy Center was subject to an investigation after conducting a survey on the protection of vulnerable groups. On 3 April 2015 the office of Labrys, a non-governmental organization working to protect the rights of LGBTI persons, was subjected to attempted arson by two unidentified men with bottles of explosives. The representative office of Human Rights Watch in Bishtek was refused renewal of the work permit of one of its employees without written explanation. Grave concern is expressed at the increasingly difficult environment for human rights defenders and civil society and that this may further be aggravated by the proposed restrictive draft legislations limiting propaganda on non-traditional sexual relations and on foreign agents. | |
| 30/07/2015<br>JAL | PER 2/2015<br>**Peru** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Presunta vulneración del derecho a la libre asociación mediante la adopción de las Resoluciones Directorales Ejecutivas (RDE) No. 085-2015-DE y 097-2015/APCI-DE de la Agencia Peruana de Cooperación Internacional (APCI). Según las informaciones recibidas, las RDE No. 085-2015-DE y 097-2015/APCI-DE adoptadas el 11 de mayo de 2015 y el 16 de junio de 2015, respectivamente, presupondrían un indebido control de las autoridades sobre las asociaciones que operan en el país. Fuentes indican que la nueva definición de "supervisión", así como las condiciones para la renovación del registro por parte de la APCI de las Organizaciones No Gubernamentales para el Desarrollo y de las Entidades e Instituciones Extranjeras de Cooperación Internacional son el resultado de una política que buscaría controlar y restringir el margen de acción de grupos con creencias u opiniones disidentes de la sociedad civil. | |

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| 03/08/2015<br>JAL | MAR 6/2015<br>**Maroc** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;**<br>**Torture;** | Allégations d'actes d'intimidations et de harcèlement contre des défenseurs des droits de l'homme et d'autres individus exerçant leur droit à la liberté d'association et de réunion pacifique au Sahara occidental. Selon les informations reçues, de nombreux défenseurs des droits de l'homme, de militants politiques et associatifs et plus généralement d'individus exerçant leurs droits à la liberté d'association et de réunion pacifique au Sahara occidental, feraient régulièrement l'objet d'une surveillance de police, devant leur domicile ou leur lieu de travail. Cette situation inclut notamment les cas de Mme Fatimetou Bara, Présidente de l'Observatoire des femmes et des enfants, de Mme Ghalia Djimi, Présidente de l'Association Sahraouie des Victimes des Violations Graves des Droits de l'Homme Commises par l'Etat du Maroc, de M. Hmad Hamad, Vice-président de l'association Comité pour la défense du droit à l'autodétermination du peuple sahraoui ou de M. Alouat Sidi Mohamed de l'Association pour les Handicapés. De plus, il est rapporté que dans des nombreux cas de manifestations pacifiques organisées au Sahara occidental depuis le début de l'année 2015, des forces de sécurité auraient commis des violences contre des manifestants et des passants, parmi lesquelles M. Abdallahi Toubali. | |

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| 03/08/2015<br>JUA | MMR 8/2015<br>**Myanmar** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Myanmar;** | Alleged arbitrary detention of an interfaith activist and member of the political party National League for Democracy. According to the information received, on 14 July 2015, Mr. Zaw Zaw Latt, an interfaith peaceful coexistence activist and member of the political party National League for Democracy, was arrested by a police officer at a coffee shop located in the Chan Aye Thar Zan Township, Mandalay, without being shown an arrest warrant. He is currently detained at Chan Aye Thar Zan police station. Mr. Zaw Zaw Latt was reportedly charged under section 17/1 of the Penal Code for having taken part in a meeting of an unlawful organization, and, if found guilty, could be sentenced to up to three years' imprisonment. Mr. Zaw Zaw Latt's arrest is reportedly related to his participation in 2013 in a peaceful march to Kachin State demanding an end to the conflict between the Government and the Kachin Independence Army. It is also reported that the "Central Nationality and Religion Safeguarding Association" (Mabatha) has been targeting Mr. Zaw Zaw Latt and spreading rumours that he has connections with armed groups. Mr. Zaw Zaw Latt has reportedly also been portrayed as a terrorist on social media. | 14/11/2015 |
| 03/08/2015<br>JUA | PAK 7/2015<br>**Pakistan** | **Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged imminent execution of a Pakistani national, who was a minor at the time of his conviction, on the basis of a confession obtained under torture. According to the information received, Mr. Shafqat Hussain, who is currently detained in Karachi Central Prison, was 14 years old at the time of his trial and convicted on the basis of a forced confession after having been subjected to torture by the police for nine days. He was sentenced to death for kidnapping and involuntary manslaughter. It is reported that, on 27 July 2015, a new warrant for Mr. Hussain's execution was issued for 4 August 2015. Mr. Shafqat was the subject of a previous communication sent on 19 March 2015, see A/HRC/30/27, case no. PAK 2/2015. | 05/08/2015 |

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| 03/08/2015<br>JAL | ZMB 2/2015<br>**Zambia** | **Cultural Rights; Freedom of expression;** | Alleged arrest and prosecution of a musician and singer for having released a song critical of the President of the ruling party. According to the information received, on 8 June 2015, Mr. Chama Fumba, aka Pilato (Pilate), a 31-year-old musician, was arrested for a song in which he is said to have ridiculed the President and the ruling party. He was subsequently detained and denied police bond, despite the request from his lawyers that he be released pending trial. On 9 June, Mr. Fumba appeared before the Chief Resident Magistrate at Lusaka on charges of "conduct likely to cause a breach of the public peace", contrary to Section 178 (f) of the Penal Code of Zambia. Mr. Fumba pleaded not guilty and was granted release pending trial on bail. His trial was initially set for 24 June 2015, but later adjourned until 13 July 2015, reportedly because the prosecutor had no witnesses. On 13 July, the director of the Public Prosecution entered a Nolle Prosequi and the case against Mr. Fumba was discontinued. It is alleged that the arrest of Mr. Fumba might be linked with the upcoming presidential electoral campaign for 2016. | |
| 04/08/2015<br>AL | CHN 7/2015<br>**China (People's Republic of)** | **Freedom of expression;** | Alleged restrictions on the right to freedom of expression in provisions of the draft Cybersecurity Law in the People's Republic of China. According to the information received, this draft legislation contains a number of problematic provisions, which appear to unduly restrict access to internet communication in China. These include curbing users' anonymity rights, granting authorities broad powers in response to national threats, rigorous monitoring and oversight of private networks, and stipulating that data must be stored in China. Concern is expressed that these provisions in the draft legislation appear to limit the right to freedom of expression in China. | |

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| 04/08/2015<br>JAL | IND 6/2015<br>**India** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Allegations concerning the investigation and charges against two human rights defenders in relation to their human rights work, as well as measures restricting access to their organizations' funds. According to the information received, Ms. Setalvad and Mr. Anand, founding members of Citizens for Justice and Peace (CJP), Sabrang Trust, and Sabrang Communications and Publishing Private Limited, have faced a pattern of harassment in relation to their organizations' work, including seeking justice for the victims of communal violence in the Gulbarg Society Massacre. It is reported that investigations and proceedings against Ms. Setalvad and Mr. Anand relating to the alleged misappropriation of funds from CJP, have continued with prolonged anticipatory bail hearings. Another series of proceedings against the human rights defenders includes separate investigations pertaining to allegations of non-compliance with the Foreign Contributions Regulation Act and have led to premise searches by the Central Bureau of Investigation, reportedly despite collaboration in the investigation by Ms. Setalvad and Mr. Anand. Ms. Setalvad and Mr. Anand were the subjects of a previous communication sent on 11 April 2014, see A/HRC/27/72, case no. IND 3/2014. Ms. Setalvad was the subject of an earlier communication sent on 28 March 2011, see A/HRC/18/51, case no. IND 5/2011. | 23/09/2015 |
| 07/08/2015<br>JUA | CHN 8/2015<br>**China (People's Republic of)** | **Arbitrary detention;**<br>**Freedom of expression;**<br>**Human rights defenders;**<br>**Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary detention and ill-treatment in detention of a human rights defender. According to the information received, on 8 August 2013, Mr. Yang Maodong, also known by his pen name Guo Feixiong, was arrested by police and detained in Tianhe District Detention Centre on charges of "gathering a crowd to disrupt order in a public space". Mr. Maodong was formally charged in June 2014, and tried on 18 November 2014. Whilst detained and awaiting a verdict on his case, Mr. Maodong has allegedly been subjected to ill-treatment, including humiliation and physical abuse. Mr. Maodong has been the subject of five previous communications dated 6 March, 19 October and 1 December 2006, see A/HRC/4/37/Add.1, paras. 134, 142, 158 and 161; 30 November 2007, see A/HRC/7/28/Add.1, paras. 413-417; and 22 August 2013, see A/HRC/25/55/Add.3, case number CHN 9/2013. | 02/09/2015 |

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| 07/08/2015<br>JAL | MRT 3/2015<br>**Mauritanie** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Allégations relatives à l'adoption imminente d'un projet de loi relatif aux associations, aux fondations et aux réseaux d'associations non-conforme avec les normes et standards internationaux en matière de droits de l'homme. Selon les informations reçues, le contenu présumé du projet de loi relatif aux associations, aux fondations et aux réseaux d'associations, adopté par le Conseil des Ministres le 22 juillet 2015, serait incompatible avec les obligations internationales du pays en matière de droits de l'homme, y compris avec les articles contenus dans le Pacte international relatif aux droits civils et politiques relatifs au droit à la liberté d'association et au droit à la liberté d'opinion et d'expression. | |
| 07/08/2015<br>JAL | RUS 4/2015<br>**Russian Federation** | **Environment; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Allegations concerning the targeting and criminalization of an environmental human rights defender and the inclusion of a human rights organization on the "foreign agent" list. According to the information received, on 15 April 2015, Planet of Hopes, a non-governmental organization, was included on the so-called "foreign agents" list for carrying out its human rights activities and exercising freedom of expression. On 26 May 2015, the Ozersk City District Court ordered Planet of Hopes to pay a fine of 300,000 roubles (approx. 4,988 USD) for refusing to voluntarily register as a foreign agent. On 27 May, 24 June and 1 July 2015, the Russian national television channel 'Russia-1'covered the court decision ordering the fine and accused Ms. Nadezdha Kutepova, director of Planet of Hopes, of industrial espionage and revealed her address. Planet of Hopes was the subject of a previous communication sent 20 June 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. RUS 5/2014. The adoption and application of the Law on Introducing Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts Regarding the Regulation of Activities of Non-commercial Organisations Performing the Functions of Foreign Agents was the subject of five previous communications sent on 11 July 2012, see A/HRC/22/67, case no. RUS 5/2012; 13 June 2013, see A/HRC/25/74, case no. RUS 3/2013; 18 December 2013, see A/HRC/16/21, case no. RUS 13/2013; 20 June 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. RUS 5/2014; and 14 November 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. RUS 9/2014. | 16/11/2015 |

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| 10/08/2015<br>JAL | KHM 3/2015<br>**Cambodia** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Alleged judicial harassment of a human rights defender and leader of a human rights organization. According to the information received, on 15 May 2015, the Prosecution Office of the Siem Reap Provincial Court made a statement threatening to prosecute Mr. Ny Chakrya, Head of the Human Rights and Legal Aid Section of the Cambodian Human Rights and Development Association (ADHOC). The threat was allegedly made in response to statements made by Mr. Chakrya criticising the arrest and detention of two individuals involved in an ongoing land dispute in Siem Reap Province. Information further suggests that on 29 May 2015, a complaint was submitted against Mr. Chakrya by the Investigating Judge and the Deputy Prosecutor of the Siem Reap Provincial Court, accusing Mr. Chakrya of three crimes under the Criminal Code. On 13 July 2015, Mr. Chakrya appeared before the Phnom Penh Municipal Court for a preliminary hearing concerning the allegations against him. If Mr. Chakrya is formally charged, he reportedly faces potential accumulated fines of up to 13,000,000 Riels (approx. 3,197 USD) and one and a half year imprisonment. ADHOC was the subject of two previous communications sent on 3 February 2011, see A/HRC/18/51, case no. KHM 1/2011, and on 13 August 2012, see A/HRC/22/67, case no. KHM 5/2012. | |
| 10/08/2015<br>JUA | IRN 12/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of religion; Human rights defenders; Iran; Summary executions; Torture;** | Allegations concerning the imposition of the death penalty on an honorary doctor for his spiritual beliefs and practices. Dr. Mohammad Ali Taheri, honorary doctor, author of alternative medicine theories used in Iran and abroad, and founder of Erfan-e-Halgheh (inter-universalism), was arrested on 4 May 2011 and again in October 2011, and reportedly sentenced to five years in prison for allegedly having insulted Islamic sanctities. The sentence was related to his spiritual beliefs and practices. While serving his five year sentence, the charge of Mosfed fel Arz (spreading corruption on earth) was introduced at a second trial that took place in two sessions on 11 March and 29 April 2015. On 1 August 2015, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Court sentenced Dr. Taheri to death for establishing Erfan-e-Halgheh. Dr. Taheri was the subject of four previous communications sent on 10 July 2013, see A/HRC/25/74, case no. IRN 11/2013; on 22 August 2013, see A/HRC/25/74, case no. IRN 13/2013; on 24 March 2014, see A/HRC/27/72, case no. IRN 4/2014; and on 25 November 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. 28/2014. | |

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| 11/08/2015<br>JAL | MUS 1/2015<br>**Mauritius** | **Health; Migrants;** | Alleged pending deportation of an international student based solely on her HIV status. According to the information received, Ms. X landed in Mauritius on 27 January 2015 as part of a study abroad program. As part of the application, she was tested on 4 February 2015 in a private laboratory and was informed of her HIV positive status the next day. She shared the results of this test with her university. On 19 March 2015, the university ordered her to immediately go to the Passport and Immigration Office in Port Louis, Mauritius. Upon doing so, she received a letter of deportation, allowing her two weeks to leave the country. On 16 April 2015, the Passport and Immigration Office sent a second letter of deportation. Ms. X has turned to the Supreme Court of Mauritius to challenge the decision to deport her and to challenge the current law in place. On 6 May 2015, the court heard a demand for judicial review and decided that the case will be taken on its merits. A hearing date has been set for September 2015. The deportation of Ms. X has been suspended pending the judgment of the Supreme Court. | 09/12/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 12/08/2015<br>JUA | BGD 5/2015<br>**Bangladesh** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Alleged stigmatization of two human rights non-governmental organizations by the police, and risk of serious threats against a human rights defender, his relatives and colleagues. According to the information received, on 2 August 2015, following the publication of a report by Odhikar and BAMAK on extra-judicial executions allegedly committed by police forces, the police headquarters in Dhaka issued a media release to reject the report and label the two human rights organizations as subversive. The police stated, inter alia, that the action by the two organizations challenged the rule of law and the judicial system of the country. Furthermore, it is feared that Mr. Adilur Rahman Khan, Odhikar Secretary, his relatives and colleagues may face serious threats in the context of the issuance of the above-mentioned media release. Odhikar and its members, including Mr. Adilur Rahman Khan, were the subject of previous communications sent by several special procedures mandate holders on 25 March 2014, see A/HRC/27/72, case no. BGD 2/2014; on 13 November 2013, see A/HRC/25/74, case no. BGD 14/2013; on 6 September 2013, see A/HRC/25/74, case no. BGD 10/2013; on 14 August 2013, see A/HRC/25/74, case no. BGD 9/2013; on 11 October 2011, see A/HRC/19/44, case no. BGD 5/2011; on 14 March 2011, see A/HRC/19/55Add.2, case no. BGD 3/2011; on 12 March 2010, see A/HRC/16/44/Add.1, case no. BGD 4/2010; and on 9 May 2007, see A/HRC/7/28/Add.1, case no. BGD 11/2007. | |

| Date<br>Type | Case No<br>Country | Mandate(s) | Summary of the allegation transmitted | Reply |
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| 12/08/2015<br>JUA | IND 8/2015<br>**India** | **Arbitrary detention; Environment; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of two women human rights defenders. According to the information received, the All India Union of Forest Working People (AIUFWP) had planned a large protest against forcible land acquisition in Sonbhadra and the prosecution of peaceful activists for 30 June 2015. At approximately 6.10 a.m. of that day, around 20 armed police officers of the Sonbhadra, Uttar Pradesh district, forcibly entered the house of Ms. Roma Mallik, the General Secretary of AIUFWP. Ms. Mallik and Ms. Sukalo Gond, a national committee member of AIUFWP who was present at Ms. Mallik's house, were subsequently arrested and brought to the office of the Superintendent of Police in Sonbhadra. They were reportedly questioned about AIUFWP and their individual human rights activities. They are currently detained in Mirzapur Jail on judicial remand for further investigation into multiple allegations against them, including serious crimes punishable by up to life imprisonment. | |
| 12/08/2015<br>JUA | IRN 13/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Iran; Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary detention of a journalist for having exercised his rights to freedom of opinion and expression; freedom of association and political participation, and violation of his right to due process of law. According to the information received, Mr. Jason Rezaian, a double national from the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States of America, and Washington Post's correspondent in Tehran, was arrested on 22 July 2014 at his home, by agents of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps. The Revolutionary Court has failed to publicly disclose the charges against him. His trial started ten months later, closed to the public and even Mr. Rezaian's close relatives. He has had no opportunity to present witnesses or evidence in his defense; nor has he had any opportunity to examine and challenge witnesses and evidence against him. Mr. Rezaian has also been deprived of due process and denied his rights to legal counsel of his choosing as well as to consular visitation. The conditions at Evin Prison have resulted in a dramatic deterioration of Rezaian's health. Mr. Rezaian was the subject of two previous communications sent on 4 June 2015, see above, case no. IRN 6/2015, and on 6 August 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. IRN 16/2014. | |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 12/08/2015<br>JUA | PAN 1/2015<br>**Panama** | **Arbitrary detention;**<br>**Torture;** | Arbitrario traslado de detenidos en situación de detención preventiva a celdas dependientes del Servicio Nacional Aeronaval en la Isla Punta Coco, distante 107 kilómetros de las costas de Ciudad de Panamá. De conformidad con las informaciones recibidas, los Sres. José Cossio, Carlos Mosquera y Azael Ramos, quienes se encuentran en situación de detención preventiva, fueron trasladados, contra su voluntad y con uso de la fuerza, a instalaciones del Servicio Nacional Aeronaval dependiente del Ministerio de Seguridad en la Isla Punta Coco. Estos traslados habrían sido realizados sin orden de la autoridad competente y sin notificación alguna a los familiares ni a los abogados de estas personas. Otros traslados están previstos para las próximas semanas. Los tres detenidos se encontrarían con grilletes en manos y pies, y padecerían enfermedades estomacales derivadas de beber agua de un pozo salobre. El acceso a la Isla Punta Coco es difícil y caro, afectando el derecho de estas personas a la preparación de su defensa, sus contactos con los abogados defensores, y con sus familiares. | |
| 12/08/2015<br>JAL | UGA 2/2015<br>**Uganda** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Alleged temporary arrest and repeated harassment of a human rights defender. According to the information received, on 9 July 2015, Mr. Justus Orishaba Bagamuhunda, the executive director of the National Foundation for Democracy and Human Rights in Uganda (NAFOD), was summoned to appear before a criminal investigating officer of the Kabale police based on an accusation that he had withheld the payment of an NAFOD employee's salary. On 10 July 2015, Mr. Bagamuhunda presented himself at the Kabala police station where he was presented with a letter of arrest, issued by the State Attorney, for disobeying a District Labour Officer. He was held for approximately four hours before being released on police bond. Mr. Bagamuhunda was subsequently requested to appear at the Kabale police station on six occasions between 13 July and 4 August 2015. On 4 August 2015, Mr. Bagamuhunda was brought to the Chief Magistrates Court of Kabale and officially charged with disobeying lawful orders of a District Labour Officer. He was released on bail and ordered to reappear before the Court on 19 August 2015. | 07/09/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 13/08/2015<br>JAL | KWT 5/2015<br>**Kuwait** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;** | Allegations of arrest and imprisonment of an individual related to the exercise of his legitimate rights to freedom of expression and opinion, and freedom of association. According to the information received, in June 2012, Mr. Musallam al-Barrak, a former representative of the People's Assembly in the State of Kuwait, made a speech that allegedly "insulted" and "undermined the status of the Amir".<br>Mr. Al-Barrak was arrested on 29 October 2012 for having made this speech. On 15 April 2013, a lower Criminal Court in Kuwait sentenced Mr. Al-Barrak to five years in prison. On 17 April 2013, a rally was held at his home where some 67 individuals attended and were later prosecuted. On 18 May 2015, Mr. Al-Barrak's final appeal reduced his sentence from five years to two years in prison, which he is currently serving. | 14/09/2015 |
| 14/08/2015<br>JUA | EGY 12/2015<br>**Egypt** | **Arbitrary detention; Health; Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions; Terrorism; Torture;** | Allegations of ill-treatment, including as a result of unlawful and/or arbitrary arrest and continued pre-trial detention in poor prison conditions, inadequate to the victim's status as a minor at the time of the events, or otherwise inadequate to ensure his physical and mental integrity; possible imposition of the death penalty and life imprisonment for offences allegedly committed by a minor, and as a result of mass trial and sentencing, without due process and fair trial guarantees.<br>According to the information received Mr. Ibrahim Halawa, an Irish citizen, aged 17 at the time of the events, is currently detained in Cairo on terrorism-related charges. He is facing life imprisonment or the death penalty, if found guilty.<br>Concerns are expressed at his physical and mental integrity; the unlawfulness and/or arbitrariness of his arrest and pre-trial detention; and the lack of due process and fair trial guarantees, in particular the lack of access to legal counsel. | 11/12/2015 |

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| 14/08/2015<br>AL | MUS 2/2015<br>**Mauritius** | **Health;** | Alleged retrogressive measures in Mauritius regarding long-term harm-reduced services for people who use drugs. According to the information received, harm-reduction services implemented since 2006 are being drastically reduced in terms of coverage and accessibility, putting people who use drugs at unnecessary and avoidable risk of HIV and blood-borne infections. Amendments include halting induction of new patients; decreased hours of opioid substitution therapy (OST) distribution, new distribution vehicles in front of police stations and mandatory provisions for non-governmental organizations to disclose the identity of the programmes' users. Measures have been taken without consultation with expert stakeholders and have disregarded harm-reduction services' positive impact in decreasing HIV incidence, criminality rates and in improving the physical and mental health of their users. | |

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| 14/08/2015<br>JUA | MEX 10/2015<br>**México** | **Human rights defenders; Indigenous peoples; Water and Sanitation;** | Presuntos impactos causados por el Acueducto Independencia en los derechos sustantivos de 5 comunidades indígenas que constituyen el Pueblo Yaqui y que se encontrarían asentadas a lo largo del río Yaqui. De acuerdo con la información recibida, no hubo un proceso de consulta adecuada con las comunidades del Pueblo Indígena Yaqui en el contexto de la construcción y operación del acueducto. Este fue afirmado en 2013 por la Suprema Corte de Justicia de la Nación (SCJN), que clarificó que el manifiesto de impacto ambiental de 2011 quedo insubsistente dado que la autoridad no cumplió con su deber de organizar una consulta previa, libre e informada al pueblo Yaqui que se ve directamente afectado por el proyecto. En seguimiento a la sentencia de la SCJN, en agosto de 2013, se empezó la implementación de un proceso de consulta al pueblo Yaqui, que según la información recibida no habría cumplido con los estándares internacionales en la materia, más específicamente el carácter previo, libre e informado del proceso. Además, hasta la fecha el acueducto sigue operando, causando una violación grave a sus derechos al agua. Además, hay alegaciones de criminalización de la oposición indígena al proyecto. Según se informa, algunos líderes de la comunidad Yaqui, entre los cuales, Mario Luna Romero, Tomas Rojo Valencia y Fernando Jiménez Gutiérrez habrían sido objeto de órdenes de aprehensión por parte de la Procuraduría Estatal, en el contexto de una serie de amenazas y actos de hostigamientos directos a desalentar la oposición indígena al acueducto. | |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 17/08/2015<br>JAL | MEX 8/2015<br>**México** | **Discrimination against women; Health; Torture; Violence against women;** | Alegaciones de abuso sexual y violación de dos mujeres (incluyendo una menor) por soldados. Según la información recibida, el 10 de julio de 2013, la Sra. X, de 15 años, estaba en una habitación del hotel Centenario en Nuevo Laredo, cuando soldados entraron a su habitación. Un soldado le agarró la cabeza y tapó su boca mientras otro la violaba con violencia. Éste último, también la violó violentamente. Otro soldado la forzó a tener sexo oral, amenazándola con una pistola. Durante las agresiones, los demás soldados observaron la escena riéndose. Una semana después, patrullas del ejército fueron a su casa. La víctima reconoció algunos de los hombres que abusaron de ella y se sintió amenazada. Según la información recibida, el 19 de septiembre de 2013, la Sra. Y de 22 años, fue a un concierto con dos miembros de la Secretaría de la Defensa Nacional, luego del cual cuando les pidió que la llevaran a su casa, éstos la llevaron al cuartel militar de Nuevo Laredo, donde la sacaron a la fuerza del vehículo y la ingresaron a un cuarto donde la violaron sexualmente. La víctima fue amenazada de no denunciar el caso, fue golpeada en sus piernas y su abdomen y fue dejada en la calle. Después del incidente, percibió ser perseguida. | |
| 17/08/2015<br>JAL | USA 16/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Cultural Rights; Freedom of religion; Indigenous peoples;** | Alleged desecration of Mauna Kea Sacred Mountain located in Hawai'i for the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope. According to the information received, the construction violates United States of America's international obligations to protect the human rights of indigenous peoples to participate in cultural life, to freedom of religion and belief and to be meaningfully involved in decision making-processes that impact on their human rights. It is alleged that the decision to adopt the project was made without appropriately consulting the people for whom the mountain has high cultural and religious value, and that no serious consideration was given to alternative locations for the construction. | 18/11/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 18/08/2015<br>JAL | AGO 1/2015<br>**Angola** | **Business enterprises; Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders;** | Allegations concerning the trial and conviction on charges of criminal defamation of an Angolan journalist and human rights defender. According to the information received, Mr. Rafael Marques de Morais was indicted in January 2013 on charges of defamation in relation to his book titled "Blood Diamonds: Corruption and Torture in Angola" which was published in Portugal in 2011. It is alleged that a number of procedural irregularities took place during the pre-trial period of Mr. Marques' trial. Furthermore, additional charges were lodged against Mr. Marques when the trial started on 24 March 2015, bringing the total criminal defamation charges lodged against him to 24. Conviction on such charges could allegedly lead to a nine year prison sentence and fine of 1.2 million USD. The case had reportedly been settled by way of a negotiated agreement in May 2015. However, the settlement agreement was then reversed and the court sentenced Mr. Marques to six months in prison, suspended for two years, whereby, if he engages in any behaviour that the Republic of Angola deems criminal, the sentence will be implemented. | 21/12/2015 |
| 18/08/2015<br>AL | BHR 4/2015<br>**Bahrain** | **Freedom of expression;** | Allegations concerning the temporary suspension of the independent newspaper Al Wasat and restrictions to freedom of expression and opinion in Bahrain. According to the information received, on 6 August 2015, the Information Affairs Authority (IAA), which is primarily responsible for regulating press and publications in Bahrain, announced the temporary suspension of the Al Wasat newspaper until further notice. The IAA claimed that the suspension of Al Wasat's activities was due to its "violation of the law and repeated dissemination of information that affects national unity and the Kingdom's relationship with other countries". The Bahraini authorities have allegedly intimidated and harassed the Al Wasat newspaper and its staff over a period of several years. Although the above-mentioned suspension was lifted on 8 August 2015, concern is raised at the impact of the initial decision and the "chilling effect" on the freedom of the media in Bahrain, stifling reporting on issues of public interest. | 22/10/2015 |

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| 18/08/2015<br>AL | BRA 5/2015<br>**Brazil** | **Slavery;** | Letter concerning legislative developments in Brazil regarding the concept of slave labour and the register of employers caught using slave labour (i.e. "dirty list"). While acknowledging the exemplary programmes and policies that the Government has put in place to combat contemporary forms of slavery, the letter calls upon Brazil to uphold the standard it has set, including by not reducing the current legal definition of slave labour and by re-publishing the "dirty list". | |
| 18/08/2015<br>JAL | MYS 3/2015<br>**Malaysia** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;** | Alleged violations of the rights to freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly in Malaysia, including the blocking of the website "Sarawak Report" and harassment of its journalists, as well as the suspension of two other news outlets and arrest of peaceful protestors. According to the information received, on 19 July 2015, the Malaysian Communication and Multimedia Commission allegedly blocked the "Sarawak Report", an independent news blog, after it had reportedly published documents alleging a financial scandal involving the Malaysian Prime Minister and the State-owned development firm "1Malaysia Development Berhad". On 4 August 2015, Malaysian authorities issued an arrest warrant for Ms. Clare Rewcastle-Brown, a British journalist who is the founder and editor of the Sarawak Report, pursuant to sections 124B and 124I of the Penal Code and are now reportedly pressing for Ms. Rewcastle-Brown to be placed on Aseanapol and Interpol Red Notice Wanted Lists. Concern is expressed at the use of the Sedition Act of 1948 to arrest, detain and charge human rights activists, for exercising their rights to freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly in Malaysia. | |

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| 19/08/2015<br>JUA | AZE 3/2015<br>**Azerbaijan** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Health; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Allegations concerning the detention and sentencing of two human rights defenders as a result of their legitimate human rights work. According to the information received, on 13 August 2015, Ms. Leyla Yunus and Mr. Arif Yunusov, two Azerbaijani human rights defenders, were sentenced to eight and a half and seven years' imprisonment respectively, after having been found guilty of 'large scale fraud', 'forgery', 'tax evasion' and 'illegal business'. Both human rights defenders will allegedly be facing another trial at a future date concerning charges of treason which remain pending. Grave concern is expressed at the conviction and sentencing of Ms. Yunus and Mr. Yunusov, which are believed to be a direct response to their peaceful and legitimate human rights work. Ms. Yunus was the subject of five previous communications dated 24 August 2011, see A/HRC/19/44, case no. AZE 2/2011; 5 March 2012, see A/HRC/20/30, case no. AZE 1/2012; 9 May 2014, see A/HRC/27/72, case no. AZE 3/2014; 12 August 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. AZE 4/2014; and 13 February 2015, see A/HRC/29/50, case no. AZE 1/2015. Mr. Yunusov was the subject of two of the previous communication mentioned above; case no. AZE 3/2014 and case no. AZE 4/2014. | 11/09/2015 |
| 19/08/2015<br>UA | CHN 9/2015<br>**China (People's Republic of)** | **Hazardous substances and wastes;** | Letter concerning the chemical disaster in Tianjin of 12 August 2015, which killed more than 100 individuals, including dozens of fire fighters and other emergency personnel, and reportedly injured over 700 people. According to the information received, nearby residents, firemen and emergency personnel did not know which chemicals were being stored at the facility (nor the Government) and in what quantities. The letter expresses concern about the reported lack of information about hazardous substances in order to protect and respect the rights to life and health as well as restrictions on public access to health and safety information and the freedom of the press in reporting on the incident and its aftermath. The letter calls on the Chinese Government to ensure complete transparency in the investigation, including both causes and effects of the explosion, and to assess whether China's laws for hazardous substances and wastes are consistent with international human rights standards. | |

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| 19/08/2015<br>JAL | EGY 9/2015<br>**Egypt** | **Cultural Rights; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;** | Alleged undue restrictions to the right of everyone to freedom of artistic expression under Egyptian legislation. According to the information received, Law 430/1955 on censorship of artistic works, as well as Minister of Culture Decrees 162/1993 on implementing regulations of the censorship of artistic works and 220/1976 on the criteria to be considered for censorship, as well as several provisions of the Criminal Code (Law 58/1937), establish undue restrictions to the right to freedom of expression, especially in the form of art. It is reported that these provisions establish a regime of prior and post-censorship of the arts that is not in compliance with international human rights standards. Furthermore, Law 35/1978 on the Federation of Artistic Syndicates imposes affiliation to a unique syndicate, raising issues about the right to freedom of artistic expression, as recognized under international human rights law. The regime of sanctions provided for in these laws, as well as in the Penal Code, includes severe criminal sanctions and liberty-depriving penalties. The Government is urged to take measures to ensure compliance of the national legislation and its implementation with international human rights law and standards. | |
| 20/08/2015<br>JUA | COL 4/2015<br>**Colombia** | **Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Summary executions;** | Presuntos actos de intimidación y amenazas de muerte contra un defensor de derechos humanos. Según la información recibida, el Sr. Graciano Posso, representante legal de la Comunidad de Paz de San José de Apartadó y miembro del Consejo de dicha Comunidad, habría recibido constantes actos de intimidación y amenazas de muerte por parte de un alto mando del Ejército. Al Sr. Posso se le estaría acusando de encubrir diferentes crímenes. Se indica que estas acusaciones pudieran estar relacionadas con su trabajo en defensa de los derechos humanos y la no violencia. Además, una docena de familiares cercanos al Sr. Posso, entre ellos su padre, dos primos y varios tíos, habrían sido asesinados. Además, en la Comunidad de Paz de San José de Apartadó se habrían contabilizado más de 260 asesinatos de campesinos y campesinas, y sus miembros estarían recibiendo amenazas constantes. Igualmente se indica que la comunidad habría sido acusada de ayudar a los grupos armados a almacenar sus armas en sus casas y de incentivar a los niños a unirse a ellos. Sin embargo, según la información recibida, estas acusaciones serían falsas. | 25/09/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 20/08/2015<br>JAL | IRN 14/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Iran; Torture;** | Alleged application of corporal punishments on several prisoners in the form of flogging, amputation and blinding. On 3 March 2015, an unidentified man was reportedly blinded in his left eye in Rajai-Shahr prison- city of Karaj, for throwing acid in the face of an unnamed victim five years earlier in the city of Qom. On 18 May 2015, Mr. Kamran Jamalzadeh was flogged in public in one of the main streets of the city of Karaj. On 28 June 2015, two unidentified men reportedly had their fingers amputated without general anaesthetic in the Central Prison of Mashhad, North-eastern Khorasan Province. On 1 August 2015, a 27-year-old man, identified as Hamed, was sentenced to be blinded under the "Qisas" principles (retribution in kind). Two other inmates in Mashhad Central Prison, identified as Rahman K. and Mehdi R., reportedly had their right hands and left feet amputated after having been convicted of "Moharebeh" (waging war against God) for armed robbery on 3 August and 11 August 2015 respectively. | |
| 20/08/2015<br>JAL | NPL 2/2015<br>**Nepal** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Minority issues; Torture; Violence against women;** | Alleged excessive use of force by the police to disperse a peaceful protest in Kathmandu, and serious injuries sustained by several protestors. According to the information received, on 4 August 2015, approximately 100 Dalit human rights defenders took part in a peaceful demonstration in the Bijuli Bazar area in Kathmandu to protest against the current draft of the country's new Constitution that allegedly unduly restricts the political rights of the members of the Dalit community, and call on the law-makers to include them in the constitution-making process. The police forces dispersed the peaceful crowd, reportedly using excessive force. 26 demonstrators were injured, including Ms. Kamala Hemchuri, President of the Professional Development Resource Center, Ms. Durga Sob, Chairperson the Feminist Dalit Organization, and Mr. Ganesh B.K., Chairperson of the Rastriya Dalit Network. Serious concerns are expressed about the alleged excessive use of force against peaceful demonstrators, in the exercise of their legitimate rights to freedom of opinion and expression and freedom of peaceful assembly. Further concerns are expressed about the situation of Dalit human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, who are most at risk of attacks and retaliation. | |

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| 21/08/2015<br>JAL | BHR 5/2015<br>**Bahrain** | **Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders;** | Alleged arrest and interrogation of a Bahraini inter-faith activist and human rights defender for making comments "inciting hatred" against the Bahraini authorities. According to the information received, on 8 August 2015, Sheikh Maytham al-Salman, a well-known promoter of inter-faith dialogue and free speech, was arrested at Bahrain International Airport after returning from Tunisia, where he participated in a conference. A warrant had been issued by the Bahraini authorities on 31 July 2015 for his arrest, on grounds of "inciting hatred against the regime" and allegedly spreading false news. Upon arrival in Bahrain, he was reportedly detained and interrogated for approximately eight hours, during which time he was allegedly denied access to a lawyer. Sheik al-Salman has also been banned from leaving Bahrain. Concern is raised that the above-mentioned alleged actions have serious implications for the freedom of opinion and expression in Bahrain. | |
| 21/08/2015<br>JAL | IND 9/2015<br>**India** | **Sale of children; Trafficking; Violence against women;** | Allegations concerning the trafficking for sexual exploitation of two minors in the State of Assam, India. According to the information received, on 26 May 2015, two female minors from Kunthung Rongphar village were taken to Diphu by a distant relative. Once in Diphu they were allegedly locked up in different premises and repeatedly raped by four men over the following two days. The two victims were reportedly returned to their home in the evening of 28 May 2015. The parents of the victims have lodged a complaint with the relevant authorities. The alleged perpetrators, who were positively identified by both minors with the help of an Investigating Officer, were reportedly granted interim bail by the Guwahati High Court. It is further reported that their hearing has been repeatedly postponed. | 31/08/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 24/08/2015<br>UA | ECU 5/2015<br>**Ecuador** | **Indigenous peoples;** | Presuntos impactos causados por el Acueducto Independencia en los derechos sustantivos de 5 comunidades indígenas del Pueblo Yaqui que se encuentran asentadas a lo largo del río Yaqui. Según la información recibida, no hubo un proceso de consulta adecuado con las comunidades del Pueblo Indígena Yaqui en el contexto de la construcción y operación del acueducto afirmado en 2013 por la Suprema Corte de Justicia de la Nación (SCJN), que clarificó que el manifiesto de impacto ambiental de 2011 quedo insubsistente dado que la autoridad no cumplió con su deber de organizar una consulta previa, libre e informada. En seguimiento a la sentencia de la SCJN, se empezó la implementación de un proceso de consulta al pueblo Yaqui, cuyo carácter de previo libre e informado no habría cumplido con los estándares internacionales. Hasta la fecha, el acueducto sigue operando, causando una violación grave a sus derechos al agua. Existen alegaciones de criminalización de la oposición indígena de la comunidad Yaqui al proyecto. Mario Luna Romero, Tomas Rojo Valencia y Fernando Jiménez Gutiérrez habrían sido objeto de órdenes de aprehensión por la Procuraduría Estatal, en el contexto de una serie de amenazas y actos de hostigamientos directos a desalentar la oposición indígena al acueducto. | 22/09/2015 |
| 24/08/2015<br>AL | IDN 6/2015<br>**Indonesia** | **Discrimination against women;** | Letter concerning discriminatory provisions against women in Indonesian national legislation. According to the information received, a number of provisions of Law No. 1 of 1974 on Marriage as well as of the Regulation No. 9 of 1975 in Indonesia discriminate against women in marital status, especially regarding polygamy, age of marriage, remarriage, divorce, and responsibilities between spouses. | |
| 24/08/2015<br>AL | IRN 15/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Discrimination against women;** | Letter concerning discriminatory legal provisions against women regarding marital status in the Iranian legislation. According to the information received, several articles of the Civil Code discriminate against women with regard to the legal age of marriage, consent for marrying, polygamy, marital rights, divorce, child custody, responsibilities between spouses and inheritance. | 27/10/2015 |

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| 24/08/2015<br>JUA | UKR 4/2015<br>**Ukraine** | **Disappearances; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Alleged enforced disappearance of a Russian national in Ukraine after being released from detention. According to the information received, on 6 March 2015, the Ovidiopol District Court of Odessa region passed a sentence which found Mr. X guilty of "trespass against the territorial integrity and inviolability of Ukraine". The court also decided to exempt Mr. X from punishment under the regime of probation. After being released from custody, Mr. X was allegedly invited by convoy officers to receive his personal belongings. Mr. X was reportedly approached by several individuals, allegedly belonging to the Security Service of the Odessa Region in Ukraine, who used violence to place him into a minibus and drove off. It is reported that no messages or phone calls have been received from Mr. X since then. His fate and whereabouts remain unknown to date. | 06/10/2015 |
| 24/08/2015<br>JAL | UZB 2/2015<br>**Uzbekistan** | **Freedom of expression; Health; Human rights defenders;** | Allegations of judicial harassment of a human rights defender, including the declaration by a Court that he is "mentally incompetent". According to the information received, on 15 May 2015, Mr. Shukhrat Rustamov was ordered by the Shaykhantakhur Inter-District Civil Court of Tashkent City to undergo a medical examination. On 11 June 2015, Mr. Rustamov submitted a report on the human rights situation in Uzbekistan to a State embassy in Tashkent. The report summarized 2,500 complaints that Mr. Rustamov had previously submitted to the President of Uzbekistan concerning human rights violations committed by representatives of the Uzbek authorities. On 26 June 2015, Mr. Rustamov was forcibly brought by police officers to the Psychiatric-Neurological Dispenser No.1 of Tashkent City in order to undergo the medical examination previously ordered by the court. Mr. Rustamov refused to undergo the examination on the basis that he wanted to appeal the court order. On 20 July 2015, the Shakhantahurskij Regional Court found Mr. Rustamov to be "mentally incompetent". This decision was reportedly based on Mr. Rustamov's medical results. However, Mr. Rustamov had not undergone any medical examination. On 18 August 2015, the Tashkent City Court on Civil Matters upheld the decision of the Shakhantahurskij Regional Court. | |

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| 25/08/2015<br>JUA | PER 3/2015<br>**Peru** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Summary executions;** | Presuntos actos de intimidación y amenazas de muerte contra una defensora de derechos humanos, en relación con un proyecto minero. Según la información recibida, el 30 de julio de 2015 un empleado de la empresa minera Yanacocha amenazó con "hacer desaparecer" a la Sra. Máxima Acuña de Chaupe, defensora de derechos humanos, miembro de la Asociación de Mujeres en Defensa de la Vida y de la Unión Latinoamericana de Mujeres, y líder de un movimiento de oposición a un proyecto minero en Sorochuco, Cajamarca. El 5 de agosto de 2015, un grupo de aproximadamente 30 policías y 50 comuneros se habría reunido en las inmediaciones de las tierras de la Sra. Acuña de Chaupe a fin de intimidarla. La empresa minera Yanacocha habría situado a varios empleados en el perímetro de sus tierras con el objeto de vigilar permanentemente su domicilio. La defensora ha sido víctima de otros actos de hostigamiento desde 2011, con el fin de intimidarla y desalojarla de sus tierras. La empresa asegura que las tierras le pertenecen por un acuerdo de venta comunitario. La Sra. Acuña de Chaupe fue objeto de una comunicación previa enviada el 20 de febrero de 2014, véase A/HRC/26/21, caso no. PER 1/2014. | |

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| 25/08/2015<br>JUA | SAU 4/2015<br>**Saudi Arabia** | **Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions; Torture; Trafficking;** | Alleged imminent execution of seven Pakistani nationals in Saudi Arabia for drug trafficking. According to the information received, between 2005 and 2013, Mr. Mohammad Afzal, Mr. Safeer Ahmad, Mr. Mohammad Fiaz, Mr. Mohammad Imran, Mr. Ghulam Shabbir, Mr. Mohammad Irfan and Mr. Liaquat Ali were arrested by Saudi police officers upon their arrival in the country. The seven men are citizens of Pakistan from rural areas, with little or no formal education and families financially dependent on them. They had been approached by the Overseas Employment Promoters ("OEPs") in Pakistan. OEPs had promised to arrange work for them in Saudi Arabia that could provide significant remittances to their families. Several days before their respective departure to Saudi Arabia, OEPs contacted the men asking that they travel to Islamabad or Karachi to receive plane tickets and visas. The men were reportedly subsequently subjected to torture and/or ill treatment by OEPs to force them to ingest narcotics concealed in capsules. All seven men were accused of trafficking narcotics and sentenced to death for drug offences by Saudi courts. Numerous irregularities were reported in connection with the arrests and legal proceedings that led to the imposition of the death penalty against them. | |
| 27/08/2015<br>JUA | CUB 2/2015<br>**Cuba** | **Arbitrary detention; Health; Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture;** | Presunta detención arbitraria y tortura aplicada a un detenido. Según la información recibida, el Sr. Emmanuel Abreu Sánchez fue arrestado en la Provincia de Holguín el 8 de febrero de 2014 por agentes policiales cuando intentaba salir del país de manera supuestamente ilegal junto con otras cuatro personas. Fue acusado y procesado por el delito de salida ilegal del país. Sin embargo, resultó condenado a 12 años de prisión por la comisión del delito de tráfico de personas, en un juicio en el que no se habrían respetado las garantías del debido proceso. No pudo contar con un abogado de su elección y los testigos de cargo no se presentaron a las audiencias. Las autoridades judiciales negaron acceso a la defensa al informe policial sobre el caso, alegando razones de seguridad de Estado. El Sr. Sánchez también habría sufrido tortura y malos tratos en la prisión Combinado de Guantánamo debiendo ser conducido al hospital. Declarado en huelga de hambre, estaría siendo alimentado contra su voluntad. | 22/10/2015 |

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| 27/08/2015<br>JAL | PER 4/2015<br>**Peru** | **Hazardous substances and wastes; Indigenous peoples;** | Carta de seguimiento respecto a la aplicación de los acuerdos del Acta de Lima para la reparación de las violaciones de los derechos humanos de los pueblos indígenas afectados por la explotación petrolera del Lote 192 y al proceso de consulta llevado a cabo para la nueva licitación en la zona. Según la información recibida, la ejecución por parte del Gobierno del Perú de las medidas acordadas con las Federaciones indígenas representantes de las comunidades indígenas del Lote 192, en el Departamento de Loreto, para la reparación de las graves violaciones de derechos humanos, resultado de 44 años de explotación petrolera en los territorios indígenas, está siendo lenta, limitada y no se han realizado las acciones previstas sobre los temas centrales de titulación de tierras, estudios de salud y remediación ambiental de la grave situación en la zona. En relación con el proceso de consulta a las comunidades afectadas acordado por el Gobierno con las Federaciones indígenas, se alega que el Estado no ha tenido en cuenta las propuestas presentadas por las comunidades de manera cabal y que dichas consultas no se han realizado con la necesaria buena fe, por lo que es necesario establecer un nuevo proceso de diálogo para superar el fracaso de las conversaciones anteriores antes de la nueva e inminente licitación del Lote. La grave situación de contaminación y sus impactos en los derechos humanos fundamentales de los pueblos indígenas en el área fue motivo de dos comunicaciones anteriores, el 5 de diciembre de 2014, véase A/HRC/29/50, caso no. PER 3/2014 y el 28 de mayo de 2015, véase A/HRC/30/27, caso no. PER 1/2015. | 26/10/2015<br>01/12/2015<br>07/12/2015 |

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| 27/08/2015<br>JAL | SSD 2/2015<br>**South Sudan** | **Freedom of expression; Summary executions;** | Alleged killing of a journalist in Juba, South Sudan, related to the exercise of his legitimate right to freedom of opinion and expression. According to the information received, on 19 August 2015, Mr. Peter Moi, a journalist working for "The Cooperate Newspaper" and "New Nation" digital media outlet, was shot dead in Juba by two unidentified assailants as he was walking home from work. Three days prior to Mr. Moi's killing, the President of South Sudan, speaking at a news conference, reportedly threatened to have journalists killed if they "work against their country"; however, on 25 August 2015, the South Sudanese Information Minister denied any intention on the part of the authorities to target journalists. Mr. Moi is allegedly the seventh journalist killed in South Sudan in 2015 and this attack has allegedly taken place amidst a crackdown on independent media coverage and increasing violence against journalists. | |
| 27/08/2015<br>JUA | SDN 6/2015<br>**Sudan** | **Discrimination against women; Sudan; Torture; Violence against women;** | Alleged sentencing to flogging and heavy fines for two female students for "indecent dress". According to the information received, on 14 July 2015 and on 16 August 2015, Ms. Rehab Omer Kakoum and Ms. Ferdous al Toum were charged with "indecent dress" under Article 152 of the 1991 Penal Code of Sudan. Ms. Kakoum was sentenced to pay a fine of 500 Sudanese pounds and Ms. Al Toum was sentenced to be flogged 20 lashes and to pay a fine of 500 Sudanese pounds. Concern is expressed at the physical and psychological integrity of both women in relation to their reported sentences. This communication is sent in follow-up to a previous communication dated 16 July 2015, see above case no. SDN 5/2015. | |

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| 27/08/2015<br>JUA | ARE 3/2015<br>**United Arab Emirates** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary and incommunicado detention, and high risk of torture or ill-treatment, of a United Arab Emirates national. According to the information received, on 18 August 2015, Mr. Nasser bin Ghaith was arrested by State Security officers of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) at his workplace in Abu Dhabi. Mr. Bin Ghaith has been incommunicado since that date. Mr. Bin Ghaith was one of the five activists known as the "UAE 5" who were arrested and detained in 2011, and released after conviction under a presidential pardon. Grave concerns are expressed regarding the fate and whereabouts of Mr. Bin Ghaith and his physical and psychological integrity as he may be at high risk of torture or other ill-treatment. Mr. Bin Ghaith was the subject of five previous communications sent on 26 April 2011, see A/HRC/18/51, case ARE 4/2011; on 27 September 2011, see A/HRC/19/44, case ARE 6/2011; on 25 November 2011, see A/HRC/19/44, case ARE 8/2011; on 7 November 2012, see A/HRC/24/21 and A/HRC/22/67, case ARE 7/2012; and on 20 June 2013, see A/HRC/25/74, case ARE 3/2013. | |
| 28/08/2015<br>UA | BRA 6/2015<br>**Brazil** | **Indigenous peoples;** | Allegations regarding the occupation of several properties located in the city of Antônio João, in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul, by the Guarani and Kaiowá people who consider this action to be a reclaiming of their traditional lands, which were recognised as such by a Presidential Decree of 2005. According to the information received, the occupation is being carried out by hundreds of Guarani and Kaiowá people, including elders, women and children, who consider this action to be a reclaiming of their traditional lands (Tekoha Ñanderu Marangatu), which were recognised as such by a Presidential Decree of 2005. There have been allegations of gunshots and violence, including by armed gunmen. Kaiowá and Guarani occupiers have now declared their intention to remain occupying those lands, until their land-claims are settled. The National Public Security Force (Força Nacional de Segurança Pública) has reportedly not yet intervened and it is feared that without their presence the conflict may escalate, possibly resulting in the loss of lives. A previous communication concerning the situation of the Kaiowá and Guarani communities of in the State of Mato Grosso do Sul was sent on 5 August 2015, see above, case no. BRA 4/2015. | 18/09/2015 |

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| 28/08/2015<br>UA | BGR 2/2015<br>**Bulgaria** | **Minority issues;** | Allegations concerning the implementation of eviction orders against sixty-one Roma households from the Maksuda Roma settlement in Mladost sub-municipality of Varna. According to the information received, the affected Roma communities were not informed regarding the date of eviction, which reportedly commenced on 20 August 2015, and over 1000 persons have been affected, including over 400 children. The evicted Roma have not been provided with any alternative accommodation. The only alternative provided by the municipality has been to offer to place evicted children in social institutions, including orphanages, thus separating families. Most of the affected families have indicated that they do not wish to place their children in institutionalized care. These latest evictions reportedly take place within a broader context of ongoing marginalization of the Roma community in Varna, including a number of prior evictions of Roma in 2014. A previous communication regarding the planned eviction of Roma in the city of Gurmen was sent on 13 July 2015, see above, case no. BGR 1/2015. | 08/10/2015 |
| 28/08/2015<br>JUA | ITA 4/2015<br>**Italy** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;**<br>**Torture;** | Allegations concerning the arrest and risk of imminent extradition of a human rights defender to Algeria. According to the information received, on 17 March 2004, Mr. Rachid Mesli, the co-founder and legal director of Alkarama, was sentenced in absentia to 20 years in prison by the Criminal Court of the Judicial Council of Algiers for "belonging to a terrorist group acting abroad." On 6 April 2002, an international arrest warrant had been issued against him. On 19 August 2015, Mr. Mesli was arrested at the Swiss-Italian border on the basis of the international arrest warrant from 2002. He was subsequently detained in Aosta prison. On 22 August 2015, Mr. Mesli was released pending appearance before the Turin Court of Appeal. On 25 August 2015, during his hearing, Mr. Mesli was informed by the judge that there was an arrest warrant against him and that the Algerian authorities would have 10 days to formally request his extradition. | |

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| 28/08/2015<br>JUA | PAK 8/2015<br>**Pakistan** | **Disappearances;**<br>**Freedom of expression;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Allegations of enforced disappearance of a social worker and investigative journalist in retaliation for her work on enforced disappearances in Pakistan. According to the information received, the social worker had in particular been working on the reported disappearance of Mr. Hamid Nehal Ahmed Ansari and been supporting Mr. Ansari's family since his disappearance. She was due to give evidence on Mr. Ansari's case on 24 August 2015, at the Joint Intelligence Team hearing. On 19 August 2015, the social worker was allegedly abducted from a bus stop near her usual place of residence in Lahore and taken away in a car to an unknown location. It is believed that the abduction of the social worker was intended to prevent her from attending the hearing. | |
| 31/08/2015<br>JAL | AZE 4/2015<br>**Azerbaijan** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Allegations concerning the murder of an Azerbaijani journalist after allegedly criticizing a football player on social media. According to the information received, on 3 August 2015, Mr. Rasim Aliyev published a Facebook post criticizing the behaviour of an Azerbaijani football player who reportedly waved a Turkish flag at a match in Cyprus and appeared to make an obscene gesture at a Greek journalist. On 8 August 2015, relatives of the aforementioned football player reportedly asked to meet Mr. Aliyev to resolve their dispute. However, upon arriving at the meeting location, Mr. Aliyev was severely beaten by six unknown assailants and died in hospital the following day. Mr. Aliyev had been the target of numerous threats related to his work as a journalist dating back several years. He had allegedly reported these threats to the authorities but was never provided with protection. Mr. Aliyev was the subject of a previous communication sent on 24 June 2008, see A/HRC/11/4/Add.1, paras. 118 - 123. | 30/10/2015 |

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| 31/08/2015<br>JUA | HND 2/2015<br>**Honduras** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Summary executions;** | Presuntas amenazas e intento de homicidio contra una periodista y defensora de derechos humanos. Según la información recibida, el 27 de junio de 2015, la madre de la periodista y defensora de derechos humanos Sra. Elizabeth Zúñiga habría recibido amenazas telefónicas exigiendo que su hija "se callara". El 12 de agosto de 2015, el coche de la Sra. Elizabeth Zúñiga habría sido saboteado, posiblemente con la intención de asesinarla. El caso contaría con un precedente preocupante: el 17 de junio de 2015, su colega y colaborador en la investigación de violaciones de derechos humanos, Sr. Héctor Orlando Martínez Motiño, entonces presidente de la Sección 6 del Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras – SITRAUNAH, fue asesinado pocos meses después de que su coche sufriera un sabotaje similar. El SITRAUNAH fue objeto de dos comunicaciones previas enviadas el 7 de octubre de 2008 y el 31 de octubre de 2008, véase A/HRC/11/4/Add.1, párr. 1040-1051. | |
| 31/08/2015<br>JUA | KAZ 2/2015<br>**Kazakhstan** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Allegations concerning the arrest and detention of a human rights defender for his role in convening a peaceful assembly and for denouncing corruption cases. According to the information received, on 28 June 2015, Mr. Narymbaev participated in and spoke to the media during a peaceful gathering of about 15 people convened in the Republic Square in Almaty in order to express concern about public services costs. On 3 July 2015, police officers of the Auezov district arrested Mr. Narymbaev at his home in connection with the events of 28 June. They subsequently transferred Mr. Narymbaev to the police station of the Bostandyk district. On 4 July 2015, the judge of the Specialised Inter-District Administrative Court of Almaty City found Mr. Narymbaev guilty of participating in an unauthorized assembly in accordance with article 488 of the new Code on Administrative Offenses and sentenced him to 15 days in detention. On 20 August 2015, Mr. Narymbaev announced on his Facebook page that he intended to handover a petition denouncing corruption crimes to the authorities that same day. At 6.30 p.m., the police arrested him under the same legal provision as in July 2015. On 21 August 2015, the judge sentenced Mr. Narymbaev to 20 days of detention. | 12/10/2015 |

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| 02/09/2015<br>JAL | CAF 1/2015<br>**Central African Republic** | **Central Africa;**<br>**Disappearances;**<br>**Summary executions;**<br>**Torture;** | Allégations d'exécutions sommaires et extrajudiciaires, de disparitions forcées et de torture. Selon les informations reçues, en décembre 2013, des soldats, originaires de la République du Congo, de la Mission internationale de soutien à la Centrafrique (MISCA), auraient torturé mortellement deux éléments de la milice anti-balaka dans la région de Bossangoa. Les tortionnaires auraient versé du plastique fondu et brûlant sur le corps de leurs victimes, les mutilant jusqu'à ce que mort s'en suive. En mars 2014, dans le village de Boali, suite à une embuscade contre une patrouille des soldats congolais de ladite mission ayant entraîné la mort de l'un d'entre eux et ayant blessé quatre autres, ils auraient procédé à l'arrestation, puis auraient sommairement exécuté plus de dix personnes. D'autres seraient portés disparus. De graves préoccupations sont exprimées quant aux allégations de torture et d'exécutions sommaires commises par des soldats originaires de la République du Congo contre des miliciens anti-balaka et leurs proches. Ce cas a fait l'objet de trois autres communications adressées respectivement au Gouvernement de la République du Congo, numéro cas COG 1/2015; à l'Union Africaine, numéro cas OTH 5/2015; ainsi qu'au Département de maintien de la paix de l'Organisation des Nations Unies, numéro cas OTH 6/2015. | |

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| 02/09/2015<br>JAL | COG 1/2015<br>**Congo (Republic of the)** | **Disappearances;**<br>**Summary executions;**<br>**Torture;** | Allégations d'exécutions sommaires et extrajudiciaires, de disparitions forcées et de torture. Selon les informations reçues, en décembre 2013, des soldats, originaires de la République du Congo de la Mission internationale de soutien à la Centrafrique (MISCA) auraient torturé mortellement deux éléments de la milice anti-balaka dans la région de Bossangoa. Les tortionnaires auraient versé du plastique fondu et brûlant sur le corps de leurs victimes, les mutilant jusqu'à ce que mort s'en suive. En mars 2014, dans le village de Boali, suite à une embuscade contre une patrouille des soldats congolais de ladite mission ayant entraîné la mort de l'un d'entre eux et ayant blessé quatre autres, ils auraient procédé à l'arrestation, puis auraient sommairement exécuté plus de dix personnes. D'autres seraient portés disparus. De graves préoccupations sont exprimées quant aux allégations de torture et d'exécutions sommaires commises par des soldats originaires de la République du Congo contre des miliciens anti-balaka et leurs proches. Ce cas a fait l'objet de trois autres communications adressées respectivement au Gouvernement de la République Centrafricaine, numéro cas CAF 1/2015; à l'Union Africaine, numéro cas OTH 5/2015; ainsi qu'au Département de maintien de la paix de l'Organisation des Nations Unies, numéro cas OTH 6/2015. | |

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| 02/09/2015<br>JAL | OTH 5/2015<br>**Other** | **Disappearances; Summary executions; Torture;** | Allégations d'exécutions sommaires et extrajudiciaires, de disparitions forcées et de torture. Selon les informations reçues, en décembre 2013, des soldats, originaires de la République du Congo de la Mission internationale de soutien à la Centrafrique (MISCA,) auraient torturé mortellement deux éléments de la milice anti-balaka dans la région de Bossangoa. Les tortionnaires auraient versé du plastique fondu et brûlant sur le corps de leurs victimes, les mutilant jusqu'à ce que mort s'en suive. En mars 2014, dans le village de Boali, suite à une embuscade contre une patrouille des soldats congolais de ladite mission ayant entraîné la mort de l'un d'entre eux et ayant blessé quatre autres, ils auraient procédé à l'arrestation, puis auraient sommairement exécuté plus de dix personnes. D'autres seraient portés disparus. De graves préoccupations sont exprimées quant aux allégations de torture et d'exécutions sommaires commises par des soldats originaires de la République du Congo contre des miliciens anti-balaka et leurs proches. Ce cas a fait l'objet de trois autres communications adressées respectivement au Gouvernement de la République du Congo, numéro cas COG 1/2015; au Gouvernement de la République Centrafricaine, numéro cas CAF 1/2015; ainsi qu'au Département de maintien de la paix de l'Organisation des Nations Unies, numéro cas OTH 6/2015. | |

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| 02/09/2015<br>JAL | OTH 6/2015<br>**Other** | **Disappearances; Summary executions; Torture;** | Allégations d'exécutions sommaires et extrajudiciaires, de disparitions forcées et de torture. Selon les informations reçues, en décembre 2013, des soldats, originaires de la République du Congo de la Mission internationale de soutien à la Centrafrique (MISCA) auraient torturé mortellement deux éléments de la milice anti-balaka dans la région de Bossangoa. Les tortionnaires auraient versé du plastique fondu et brûlant sur le corps de leurs victimes, les mutilant jusqu'à ce que mort s'en suive. En mars 2014, dans le village de Boali, suite à une embuscade contre une patrouille des soldats congolais de ladite mission ayant entraîné la mort de l'un d'entre eux et ayant blessé quatre autres, ils auraient procédé à l'arrestation, puis auraient sommairement exécuté plus de dix personnes. D'autres seraient portés disparus. De graves préoccupations sont exprimées quant aux allégations de torture et d'exécutions sommaires commises par des soldats originaires de la République de Congo contre des miliciens anti-balaka et leurs proches. Ce cas a fait l'objet de trois autres communications adressées respectivement au Gouvernement de la République du Congo, numéro cas COG 1/2015; au Gouvernement de la République Centrafricaine, numéro cas CAF 1/2015; ainsi qu'à l'Union Africaine, numéro cas OTH 5/2015. | |
| 02/09/2015<br>AL | PAK 9/2015<br>**Pakistan** | **Sale of children;** | Allegations concerning the sexual exploitation of up to 280 children by a gang of up to 25 individuals in the village of Husain Khan Wala in Kasur district and the production of around 400 related child abuse images. According to the information received, since 2006, a group of up to 25 individuals has been raping children using threats, violence or drugging them, and also forced them to perform sexual acts on each other. This sexual abuse was reportedly systematically filmed by the alleged perpetrators and around 400 videos were produced. The videos were apparently sold in the district and online to paedophiles abroad. At the beginning of 2015, the videos of the sexual abuse were reportedly circulated in the village and the relatives of the child victims first became aware of the ongoing exploitation. A mother purportedly attempted to file a complaint with the police but was reportedly beaten and threatened by the police officers who further refused to register her case. The local police has reportedly failed to interview the alleged victims, collect evidence, secure crime scenes and confiscate the videos of the sexual exploitation. | |

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| 02/09/2015<br>JAL | RUS 5/2015<br>**Russian Federation** | **Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Summary executions;** | Allegations of murder and inadequate investigation into the death of a Russian journalist related to the exercise of his legitimate rights to freedom of expression and opinion. According to the information received, on 9 July 2013, Mr. Akhmednabi Akhmednabiyev was shot dead by a gunman outside his home in Makhachkala, Dagestan, Russian Federation. Mr. Akhmednabiyev actively reported on human rights violations against Muslims by the police and Russian army and he received numerous death threats before he was killed. It is alleged that if police had properly investigated these warning signs at that time, they could have helped prevent his fatal shooting. Moreover, the subsequent police investigation of his death, led by the Dagestani Investigative Committee, has been frequently suspended and largely ineffective. | |
| 03/09/2015<br>JAL | ZAF 2/2015<br>**South Africa** | **Albinism; Summary executions; Violence against women;** | Alleged abduction, killing and dismembering of a young woman with albinism. According to the information received, on 5 August 2015, Ms. Thandazile Sqongwani Mpunzi was reported missing in Phelandaba village in Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa. A search was undertaken by the local chief and the ward council in close cooperation with the community and the police and, on 16 August 2015, the remains of her dismembered body were found in a shallow grave in Phelandaba. Four men, including a minor, were arrested in relation to Ms. Mpunzi's killing and dismembering and to date they have appeared twice before the Manguzi Magistrate's Court. The next court appearance is scheduled for 13 October 2015. In addition, the Albinism Society of South Africa has lodged a complaint to the Commission of Gender Equality. Serious concerns are expressed about the alleged abduction, killing and dismembering of Ms. Mpunzi, as these acts appear to have had the purpose of using, or selling for use, her body parts for witchcraft purposes. | |

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| 04/09/2015<br>JAL | TCD 1/2015<br>**Tchad** | **Summary executions;**<br>**Terrorism;**<br>**Torture;** | Allégations de violations du droit à la vie. Selon les informations reçues, le 29 août 2015, les autorités tchadiennes auraient exécuté 10 personnes accusées d'actes de terrorisme suite à des attentats menés dans la capitale N'Djamena par le groupe terroriste Boko Haram. Ces exécutions sont les premières depuis 12 ans au Tchad. Des préoccupations sont exprimées quant à la réintroduction de la peine de mort dans l'arsenal répressif tchadien suite à l'adoption de la loi anti-terroriste du 30 juillet 2015. Des préoccupations sont également soulevées quant au caractère expéditif du procès ayant abouti à ces exécutions. | |
| 04/09/2015<br>JUA | TUR 3/2015<br>**Turkey** | **Arbitrary detention;**<br>**Freedom of expression;** | Alleged arrest and arbitrary detention of three journalists in Turkey for aiding a terrorist organization. According to the information received, on 27 August 2015, Mr. Jake Hanrahan and Mr. Philip Pendlebury, two British journalists, along with Mr. Mohammed Ismael Rasool, an Iraqi journalist, and their driver, were reportedly arrested in the south-eastern Turkish province of Diyarbakir while filming clashes between security forces and youth members of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party, and later questioned by anti-terrorism police. On 31 August 2015, the three journalists were charged by a Turkish judge in Diyarbakir for "engaging in terrorist activity." Although their driver was released, the journalists were detained for several days at Diyarbakir D Type Prison. On 3 September 2015, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland released a statement indicating that Mr. Hanrahan and Mr. Pendlebury had been transferred from prison to a deportation centre in Adana. Mr. Rasool allegedly had his appeal to be released rejected by the Turkish authorities and is reportedly still in prison. | 08/10/2015 |

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| 07/09/2015<br>JAL | HUN 1/2015<br>**Hungary** | **Migrants; Racism; Torture;** | Allegations concerning the Government of Hungary's actions aimed at preventing the mobility of asylum seekers and migrants onto and/or within its territory.<br>According the information received, since April 2015, the Government has taken a number of measures aimed at preventing asylum seekers and migrants from either entering or exiting the country. In May, the Government mailed more than eight million questionnaires entitled "national consultation on immigration and terrorism" to its citizens reportedly inciting hatred and actively promoting hostility towards migrants. In early June, the Government reportedly launched a controversial billboard campaign against migration. On 17 June 2015, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade announced the closure of the Hungarian-Serbian border by erecting a four-meter-high fence by the 175-kilometre long border section. In July, Hungary's parliament passed new legislation tightening asylum rules. On 1 September, the Hungarian police reportedly sealed off a major railway station in Budapest in order to prevent migrants from leaving Hungary. Grave concern is expressed at the above actions taken by the Government as part of a wider pattern of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia against foreigners, migrants and asylum seekers. | 24/11/2015 |

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| 08/09/2015<br>JAL | IDN 7/2015<br>**Indonesia** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Alleged threats and intimidation of a human rights defender in West Papua province. According to the information received, in May 2015, Mr. Theo Hesegem, member of the Coalition Team for Justice, Law and Human Rights, who documents human rights violations in the region, received a threatening text message from an unknown number following the arrest and reported torture of a Papuan man by local police. In the same month, Mr. Hesegem received a threatening phone call from the Chief of the Regional Police. On 21 June 2015, Mr. Hesegem accompanied a family visiting their severely injured relative in hospital. Upon the arrival of the Chief of the Regional Police at the hospital, Mr. Hesegem was forced to leave. On 4 July 2015, a local newspaper quoted the Chief of the Regional Police who, in referring to the hospital visit, accused Mr. Hesegem of being the provocateur in the incident. On 8 August 2015, Mr. Hesegem met with the chief of the National Police in Jakarta and reported his alleged harassment by local and regional police. Mr. Hesegem was the subject of a previous communication sent on 12 September 2014, case number IDN 4/2014, see A/HRC/28/85. | |

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| 09/09/2015<br>JAL | LTU 1/2015<br>**Lithuania** | **Human rights defenders;**<br>**Minority issues;** | Alleged denial of entry to Lithuania of a human rights and minority rights defender as well as two conference participants to attend an international roundtable on minority rights. According to the information received, on 24 August 2015, Mr. Aleksandrs Kuzmins, the secretary of the Latvian Human Rights Committee, travelled to Klaipeda, Lithuania, to represent his organization at the international roundtable entitled "Ethnic nationalism as a threat to peace and stability". At around 5 p.m., at the Klaipeda bus station, Mr. Kuzmins was stopped by Lithuanian Border Guard officers and informed that the Lithuanian Migration Department based on a section of the law covering "threats to national security" refused him entry to the country until 20 August 2020. Mr. Kuzmins was ordered to leave Lithuania by midnight at the risk of being arrested. Two other participants of the conference, Mr. Aleksandrs Rzavinst and Mr. Joseph Koren, also coming from Latvia, were similarly refused entry to Lithuania. Grave concern is expressed that the denial of entry of Mr. Kuzmins, Mr. Rzavinst and Mr. Koren to Lithuania appears to be related to their human rights activities, including their advocacy on minority rights. | 17/12/2015 |
| 09/09/2015<br>JAL | THA 8/2015<br>**Thailand** | **Business enterprises;**<br>**Freedom of expression;**<br>**Human rights defenders;**<br>**Migrants;**<br>**Trafficking;** | Alleged indictment of a human rights defender based on false accusations. According to the information received, on 24 August 2015, Mr. Andy Hall was indicted by the Bangkok South Criminal Court on the basis of accusations of criminal defamation and computer crimes. The indictment follows from one of four complaints lodged against Mr. Hall by the Thai pineapple processing company, Natural Fruit Company. The complaints followed Mr. Hall's contribution to a report published by the Finnish non-governmental organization Finnwatch in 2013, concerning labour rights violations at the Natural Fruit Company factory in Prachuap Khiri Khan Province. Mr. Hall was the subject of a previous communication sent on 26 April 2013, case number THA 4/2013, see A/HRC/24/21. | 15/09/2015 |

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| 11/09/2015<br>JAL | IND 10/2015<br>**India** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Allegations of human rights violations committed by law enforcement authorities in Manipur. According to the information received, on 10 February 2014, Mr. Aribam Dhanajoy was physically assaulted by personnel of the First Indian Reserve Battalion and interrogated as to his role in peaceful protests in the Manipur region. On 12 May 2014, Mr. Laishram Mandir Singh, Secretary of Social Action Development Organization (SADO), was arrested and detained. On the same day, SADO carried out a peaceful march against human rights violations committed by police forces in the Manipur region. Mr. Singh was accused of multiple crimes under the Indian Penal Code. On 13 June 2014, Mr. Laimayum Sevananda Sharma was physically assaulted by Manipur Police Commandoes. On 9 September 2014, Mr. Phulindro Konsam was arrested during a meeting of civil society representatives concerning the advancement of the rights of indigenous peoples in the Manipur region. | 23/09/2015 |
| 14/09/2015<br>JAL | ZMB 3/2015<br>**Zambia** | **Sale of children; Violence against women;** | Allegations concerning the release of a man convicted for the rape of a child following a presidential pardon. According to the information received, in February 2014, Mr. X was found guilty of the rape of a 14-year-old girl and sentenced to 18 years of imprisonment. This sentence was confirmed on appeal by the High Court of Zambia on 24 April 2014. However, in July 2015, the President reportedly announced his decision to pardon Mr. X during a visit to Mukobeko Maximum Security Prison in Kabwe. The President also reportedly decided to appoint Mr. X as ambassador for the fight against gender violence. Following his release, Mr. X allegedly assaulted one of his three wives. Moreover, it is alleged that, in August, he released a song in which he condemned those who had criticized his pardon and questioned the length of the sentence handed to him. It is reported that the child victim has suffered from trauma and stigmatisation resulting among others in her dropping out from school and she and her family having had to move houses several times due the public exposure related to her case. | |

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| 15/09/2015<br>JAL | BGR 3/2015<br>**Bulgaria** | **Cultural Rights; Freedom of religion; Minority issues;** | Allegations concerning the initiation of archaeological excavations in the vicinity of a mosque and planned conversion of the religious site into a museum. According to the information received, on 14 June 2015, the local government of Karlovo started excavation works aimed at exposing archaeological remains in and around Kurshun Mosque and at converting the site into a museum, without prior notification or consultation with the Muslim community of Bulgaria. The ownership of the Kurshun Mosque has been long disputed and is currently not open for worship; however, it reportedly bears great religious importance for the Muslim community, who views the works as an act of desecration. Similar projects of public works and excavations have allegedly also been carried out at other sites of religious significance for the Muslim community without prior consultation, including at Hamza Bey Mosque in Stara Zagora, Makbul Pasha Mosque in Razgrad and Mihaloglu Mosque in Ihtiman. Controversies regarding the ownership and use of mosques in Bulgaria have reportedly caused tension in the country, including protests against the religious use of Muslim places of worship. | 18/11/2015 |

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| 15/09/2015<br>JUA | PHL 5/2015<br>**Philippines** | **Human rights defenders; Indigenous peoples;** | Allegations concerning the extrajudicial killings of five indigenous family members and three human rights defenders working on indigenous issues in the Mindanao region. According to the information received, on 18 August 2015, five indigenous family members from the Manobo tribe in Bukidnon, Northern Mindanao, including a political and spiritual adviser (known as datu) and one child, were summarily killed. On 1 September 2015, three human rights defenders working on indigenous issues were summarily killed in Liango, Surigao del Sur. They were Mr. Emerito Samarca, the Executive Director of the Alternative Learning Center for Agriculture and Livelihood Development, Mr. Dionel Campos, a member of the Manobo tribe and the chairperson of the Malahutayong Pakigbisog Alang sa Sumusunod (MAPASU), an indigenous peoples organization leading the protests against human rights violations, and Mr. Bello Sinzo, a Manobo tribal chieftain. It is reported that the killings of these eight individuals were carried out by members of Government controlled forces, namely members of the Philippine Army's 36th Infantry Battalion and Special Forces with members of the Magahat-Bagani Force, and soldiers from the 3rd Special Forces Company of the 1st SF Battalion (within the 403rd Infantry Brigade) respectively. | |
| 17/09/2015<br>JUA | MEX 11/2015<br>**México** | **Arbitrary detention; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Indigenous peoples;** | Alegaciones sobre la detención de un abogado, representante legal de comunidades indígenas en la defensa de sus derechos. Según las informaciones recibidas, el 22 de julio de 2015, el abogado Sr. Eduardo Arturo Mosqueda Sánchez habría acompañado en su calidad de abogado, a miembros de la comunidad indígena de Ayotitlán en la municipalidad de Cuautitlán, estado de Jalisco, quienes se habrían acercado a las instalaciones de la compañía minera Consorcio Minero Benito Juárez Pena Colorada S.A. Una decisión judicial de cesación habría sido otorgada en 2013 en respuesta a un amparo presentado por el Sr. Mosqueda Sánchez. El Sr. Mosqueda Sánchez y miembros de la comunidad se habrían apersonado y habrían presentado copia del amparo. En respuesta, habrían sido hostigados y golpeados por la policía del Estado de Jalisco. El Sr. Mosqueda Sánchez había sido detenido en ese momento y el 30 de julio de 2015 habría sido formalmente acusado de la comisión de delitos graves. | |

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| 21/09/2015<br>JAL | KGZ 3/2015<br>**Kyrgyz Republic** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Freedom of religion; Minority issues; Torture;** | Alleged persecution of religious minorities in Kyrgyzstan in the form of a raid and closure order against a Baptist Church, and a raid, arbitrary detention and torture of Jehovah's witnesses. According to the information received, on 9 July 2015, authorities conducted an illegal raid on the premises of Baptist Church Elchilik Jiyini in Kemin. On 29 July 2015, authorities allegedly issued an official warning against Elchilik Jiyini Church for not having submitted compulsory reports and for possession of illegal publications. On 5 August 2015, authorities allegedly issued a decree ordering the suspension of the Church's activities. On 9 August 2015, in another case, the police, led by an officer who has reportedly been involved in previous violations against Jehovah's Witnesses, stopped a religious Jehovah Witnesses service in Osh city and arrested 10 of the participants, all of them male adults: Mr. Eldiyar Ormonov, Mr. Arstan Botokhanov, Mr. Iskander Kambarov, Mr. Zhakonchir Asanbayev, Mr. Nurlan Usupbayev, Mr. Chorobek Kadyrov, Mr. Bakytbek Kubanychbek Uulu, Mr. Manas Bilal Uulu, Mr. Razan Korgolov and Mr. Islamedin Kombarov. The police allegedly also tortured the latter six and filed an administrative case against Mr. Nurlan Usupbayev, the organizer, which was however dismissed by the Osh City Court. | 18/01/2016 |
| 21/09/2015<br>JAL | PHL 4/2015<br>**Philippines** | **Education; Indigenous peoples;** | Allegations concerning a government directive to close community schools and disruption of classes in Mindanao, regions XI and XII, due to systematic attacks reportedly committed by state and alleged paramilitary forces on schools. According to the information received, an official communication from the Department of Education of 12 May 2015 has instructed the closure of at least 24 community schools in Davao (region XI) and Caraga (region XIII), affecting more than 2,800 indigenous children, and their replacement by schools with military personnel as "para-teachers". Additionally, other community schools in Mindanao have been increasingly disrupted or suspended due to alleged systematic attacks on schools and harassment of teachers, students and parents reportedly perpetrated by state and alleged paramilitary forces, often in collusion with local authorities. | 07/01/2016 |

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| 21/09/2015<br>JUA | SAU 6/2015<br>**Saudi Arabia** | **Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged violations of the rights to life, liberty and security, and to fair trial; the right to be free from torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment; as well as confession obtained under torture. According to information received, in 2012, at the age of 17, Mr. Ali Mohammed al-Nimr was arrested for his participation in Arab Spring protests in Qatif, Eastern Province. During his arrest and detention, Mr. Al-Nimr was reportedly subjected to torture and ill-treatment. He was further during investigations prevented from having access to a lawyer, who, once appointed, was not allowed to consult the case file. On 27 May 2014, the Specialized Criminal Court sentenced Mr. Al-Nimr to death for "herabah" (banditry or unlawful warfare). Mr. Al-Nimr's counsel appealed the decision without success. In September 2015, his death sentence was confirmed by the High Court. Mr. Al-Nimr may reportedly be executed by "crucifixion" at any time. Concern is raised that the death penalty may be carried out against him despite the fact that he was minor at the time of the alleged crime, and following an unfair trial, and that he may have been subjected to torture. | 28/12/2015 |
| 21/09/2015<br>JAL | TUR 2/2015<br>**Turkey** | **Summary executions; Terrorism;** | Alleged violations of the right to life. According to the information received, on 1 August 2015, military airstrikes carried out by the Turkish army against combatants of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq may have led to the killing of several unarmed civilians in several villages, including Zergel. Concern is expressed about the indiscriminate use of force against the civilian population in the Kurdistan region of Iraq. | 20/11/2015 |
| 24/09/2015<br>JUA | EGY 13/2015<br>**Egypt** | **Arbitrary detention; Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary detention, incommunicado detention and torture or ill-treatment of an Egyptian national. According to the information received, on 27 July 2015, Mr. Hosni Talaat Mohammed Al Nagar, a 47-year-old Egyptian sales director, was arrested at his home by members of the Security Forces and of the Homeland Security. Mr. Al Nagar was subsequently reportedly tortured for 15 consecutive days and a confession was extracted from him through torture. Mr. Al Nagar's family has been denied access to him and it is unknown whether and where he is being detained. Grave concern is expressed regarding the alleged arbitrary detention, including incommunicado, and torture and ill-treatment of Mr. Al Nagar during his detention, as well as confessions extracted under torture. | 21/12/2015 |

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| 24/09/2015<br>JUA | SSD 3/2015<br>**South Sudan** | **Arbitrary detention;**<br>**Freedom of expression;**<br>**Human rights defenders;**<br>**Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary detention, torture and enforced disappearance of a human rights journalist and two other individuals. According to the information received, in the early hours of 6 August 2015, Mr. Clement Lochio Lormonana, together with two other individuals, was detained by South Sudanese security forces in Chukudum, Budi County, and brought to unknown military barracks. Whilst detained, the three individuals were allegedly subjected to ill-treatment amounting to torture. Mr. Lormonana and one of the other individuals, the third having been released, were last seen on 15 August 2015, being forced into a military vehicle in Chukudum. Authorities in South Sudan have allegedly denied that they have arrested Mr. Lormonana. The whereabouts of the two individuals remain unknown. Grave concern is expressed about the alleged arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance of Mr. Lormonana and the other individual. Serious concern is further expressed that the aforementioned events may be directly related to Mr. Lormonana's work in defence of human rights and the legitimate exercise of his right to freedom of expression. | |
| 25/09/2015<br>AL | DEU 1/2015<br>**Germany** | **Freedom of expression;** | Alleged investigation in Germany of two journalists on charges of treason, following the publication of classified Government documents. According to the information received, on 25 February 2015 and 15 April 2015 respectively, the digital rights blog, "Netzpolizik", for which the two journalists, Mr. Markus Beckedahl and Mr. André Meister, work, published two articles on the Government's plans for internet surveillance. On 13 May 2015, the Federal Office of Criminal Investigation initiated an investigation into the actions of the journalists. However, it was not until 30 July 2015 that the journalists officially received notification of the investigation. In early August, the Minister of Justice expressed his doubts regarding the merits of the case against the journalists and, shortly thereafter, the Prosecutor General was suspended. It later emerged that no state secrets had been revealed. On 10 August 2015, after a public outcry, charges against the journalists were dropped. Concern is expressed the charges brought against the journalists may have a significant "chilling effect" on other journalists and whistleblowers who report on or provide critical information on sensitive issues in Germany. | |

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| 25/09/2015<br>JUA | IND 11/2015<br>**India** | **Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Summary executions;** | Alleged attacks and death threats against a human rights and anti-corruption activist in the District of Shahjahanpur, Uttar Pradesh, India. According to the information received, on 15 December 2010 Mr. Prakash Chandra Pathak, a human rights and anti-corruption activist, was driving home when his car was shot at indiscriminately by unknown assailants. On 14 January 2015, Mr. Pathak's house was set on fire while he was inside. He managed to escape from the house unharmed and identified one of the assailants. On 22 July 2015, he filed a request with the authorities for protection against death threats he had been receiving from people accused by him of corruption and malpractices. On 27 August 2015, Mr. Pathak's house was again attacked by four or five unidentified individuals, with the presumed intention to kill him. On 3 September, Mr. Pathak filed a complaint regarding a corruption case following which he received new death threats. | |
| 25/09/2015<br>JAL | IRL 2/2015<br>**Ireland** | **Adequate housing; Water and Sanitation;** | Alleged increase of homelessness and lack of access of those who are homeless to emergency shelters and to safe drinking water and sanitation in the city of Cork. According to the information received, the number of homeless persons has been rising in the past few years in the city of Cork, Ireland, and it is currently estimated to be at 600 people due to lack of affordable housing, the impact of austerity measures and the global financial crisis. This exceeds the capacity of emergency shelters available in the city. In addition, there have not been any free public water and sanitation services for at least ten years. The water and sanitation services available to homeless persons through the emergency establishments are reportedly inadequate. | |

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| 25/09/2015<br>AL | KEN 4/2015<br>**Kenya** | **Albinism;** | Alleged attack and attempt to sever body parts of a person with albinism. According to the information received, on 10 September 2015, Mr. Enock Jamenya was attacked in Gavudunyi village, district of Vigha, Kenya. Three assailants, armed with "panga" knifes, entered the victim's house at night time. They requested money and told the victim they would cut his ear to sell in Tanzania. They then assaulted him. During the attack, Mr. Jamenya was cut at the left ear, as well as at the arm, neck, and fingers. The assailants left without succeeding in taking any body part with them. The victim was found unconscious the next morning by his son and transported to the Hamisi Sub-District Hospital, and later referred to the Vihiga District Hospital due to the gravity of his wounds. Mr. Jamenya reportedly succumbed to his injuries. It is alleged that the attack on Mr. Jamenya was carried out with the purpose to sever his body parts to sell for witchcraft purposes. | |
| 25/09/2015<br>AL | VEN 11/2015<br>**Venezuela** | **Torture;** | Alegaciones relativas a un incendio que se produjo el 31 de agosto de 2015 en el Internado Judicial de Carabobo, ubicado en el Estado Carabobo, el cual habría dejado 19 personas fallecidas y seis personas con quemaduras de menor gravedad. Según las informaciones recibidas, el incendio habría sido provocado por un corto circuito dentro del Pabellón 1 letra J. El Pabellón 1 letra J habría tenido solamente una salida y las personas que se encontraban dentro de esta área al momento de que se produjo el incendio presuntamente no habrían podido salir por las llamas. Según se informa, debido a la extrema condición de hacinamiento de este recinto penitenciario y la ausencia de celdas en el Pabellón 1 letra J, los privados de libertad habrían creado áreas improvisadas con telas y cartones donde pernoctaban con sus familiares. Nueve de los fallecidos eran privados de libertad; el resto eran mujeres que pernoctaban dentro del centro penitenciario. | 16/11/2015<br>23/12/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 28/09/2015<br>JUA | AGO 2/2015<br>**Angola** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Health; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of a human rights lawyer, his client and a human rights defender, and sentencing of the latter. According to the information received, on 14 March 2015, Mr. José Marcos Mavungo, Vice President of the human rights organization Mpalabanda - Associação Civica de Cabinda, was arrested by police officers without a warrant at a Catholic church and detained in Yabi prison in Cabinda. Mr. Mavungo had been involved in organizing a peaceful demonstration calling for better governance and in support of human rights in Cabinda. On 27 May 2015, Mr. Mavungo was formally charged with "rebellion" and, on 14 September 2015, sentenced to six years' imprisonment by the Cabanda Provincial Court. Due to his detention and prior health conditions, Mr. Mavungo is reportedly in urgent need of adequate medical treatment. In a separate case, on 14 March 2015, Mr. Arão Bula Tempo, a human rights lawyer, and his client, Mr. Manuel Biongo, were travelling on business near the border with the Republic of the Congo when they were approached by an individual who pretended to be one of Mr. Tempo's former students. When they voluntarily following him to a nearby office, which turned out to be the office of the criminal investigation police in Massabi, both men were escorted to the police commander's office in Lândana and subsequently transferred to the Provincial Directorate of Criminal Investigation in the city of Cabinda. On 17 March 2015, the two men were informed that they were suspected of having committed the crime of "collaboration with foreigners to constrain the State of Angola" and transferred to Cadeia Civil da Comarca de Cabinda (Cabinda civil prison). On 13 May 2015, both men were conditionally released pending trial. | |

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| 28/09/2015<br>AL | FRA 5/2015<br>**France** | **Cultural Rights;** | Lettre concernant l'adoption prochaine d'une loi en France sur la liberté de création, l'architecture et le patrimoine. Selon les informations reçues, le projet de loi en discussion au Parlement français affirme clairement la liberté de création, mais omet de mentionner les libertés correspondantes de présenter, d'exposer et de diffuser des œuvres et créations. La lettre rappelle que ces aspects sont indissociables pour la jouissance du droit de participer à la vie culturelle, tel qu'énoncé dans l'article 27 de la Déclaration universelle des droits de l'homme et l'article 15 du Pacte international relatif aux droits économiques, sociaux et culturels, et pour la réalisation du droit à la liberté d'opinion et d'expression, y compris sous une forme artistique, tel que consacré à l'article 19 du Pacte relatif aux droits civils et politiques. | |
| 28/09/2015<br>JUA | PAK 10/2015<br>**Pakistan** | **Summary executions;**<br>**Torture;** | Allegations concerning the violation of the right to life in relation to the imminent execution of the Pakistani national who was a minor at the time of this conviction. According to the information received, in 1994, Mr. Ansar Iqbal was arrested on murder charges and, in 1996, sentenced to death. He was reportedly 15 years old at the time of his sentencing. Courts in Pakistan, including the Lahore High Court and the Supreme Court, on 16 September 1996 and 19 May 2009 respectively, have refused to consider evidence that Mr. Iqbal was a child at the time of his conviction and instead based their judgements on the assessment of police officers that Iqbal had been in his twenties. On 15 September 2015, the mercy petition filed by Mr. Iqbal was rejected. It is believed that the warrant for Mr. Iqbal's execution has been issued for 29 September 2015. | |

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| 30/09/2015<br>JUA | SAU 5/2015<br>**Saudi Arabia** | **Arbitrary detention; Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged violations of the rights to life, liberty and security of the person, and fair trial, as well as the right to be free from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of a Jordanian national. According to the information received, in May 2014, Mr. Husain Abu al Khair, a Jordanian national, was arrested for drug trafficking while crossing the border between Jordan and Saudi Arabia. During his arrest and subsequent detention, he was reportedly subjected to torture. In May 2015, he was sentenced to death by the Tabouk criminal court following a trial which did not respect basic fair trial and due process guarantees, in particular the right to have access to a lawyer. Concern is raised that the death penalty may be carried out against Mr. Al Khair following an unfair trial and for an offense which does not meet the threshold of "most serious crimes"; further concern is raised that the victim may have been subjected to torture for the purpose of extracting a confession. | |
| 02/10/2015<br>JAL | BGD 6/2015<br>**Bangladesh** | **Disappearances; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Alleged acts of harassment and intimidation against human rights defenders, relatives of victims of enforced disappearances and a group of non-governmental organizations. According to information received, an NGO event was to take place on 30 August 2015, on the occasion of the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances. It is reported that less than 24 hours before the event was scheduled, it was suddenly cancelled by the National Press Club, which was set to be the venue for the event, and that several police officers were deployed and remained on the premises throughout the day with no explanation for their presence. It is also reported that families of the disappeared who were scheduled to speak during the event received threatening phone calls. Concern is expressed that these acts are part of a wider effort to silence the voices of those speaking out against enforced disappearances, and to maintain a climate of impunity for such crimes. One of the organizations involved, Odhikar, and its members, have been the subject of several previous communications sent by several special procedures, most recently on 12 August 2015, see above, case no. BGD 5/2015. | 06/10/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 05/10/2015<br>JUA | DJI 1/2015<br>**Djibouti** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Allégations concernant l'arrestation et la détention arbitraire de six personnes membres ou sympathisants de groupes de l'opposition politique. Selon les informations reçues, le 18 septembre 2015, au moins 41 personnes ont été arrêtées par la gendarmerie de Dikhil suite à une manifestation pacifique organisée pour dénoncer l'intention du président actuel de se présenter pour un quatrième mandat consécutif. Parmi elles se trouvaient M. Abdoulkarim Djama Guedi, M. Hamze Reyeh Hassan, M. Yahye Elmi Younis et M. Mahmoud Farah Roble, tous membres ou proches de l'Union pour le Salut National (USN) et du Mouvement des Jeunes de l'Opposition (MJO). M. Ibrahim Hassan Abdi, député élu pour l'USN, et M. Said Ali Miguil, responsable USN à Dikhil, ont été arrêtés et placés en garde à vue plus tard dans la même journée. Alors que le 21 septembre 2015, plusieurs des personnes arrêtées ont été libérées sans être inculpées, les six personnes susmentionnées demeurent détenues et ont été inculpées pour « manifestation illégale » le 22 septembre 2015, sans avoir eu accès à un avocat. Le 27 septembre, la demande de remise en liberté provisoire des six détenus a été refusée; l'audience a été ajournée au 4 octobre 2015. La situation de plusieurs membres de l'USN avait déjà fait l'objet d'une communication précédente envoyée le 14 février 2014, voir A/HRC/26/21, cas DJI 1/2014. | 22/10/2015 |
| 05/10/2015<br>JAL | IRN 17/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Health; Human rights defenders; Iran; Torture;** | Alleged custodial death of a political prisoner in Iran. According to information received, on 13 September 2015, Mr. Shahrokh Zamani, a labour activist was found dead in his cell at Raja'i Shahr Prison. He had been waiting for nearly a year to receive a MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) test to diagnose persistent neurological symptoms, including headaches and dizziness. Prison medical officials believed Mr. Zamani died of a stroke. It is alleged that the Raja'i Shahr Prison is severely overcrowded. There are also reports of unsanitary conditions, and deficient food for inmates and systemic denials of necessary medical care, as was the case with Mr. Zamani. Mr. Zamani was subject to especially harsh treatment and was denied furlough and phone access. Mr. Zamani was the subject of two urgent appeals sent on 17 April 2014, see A/HRC/27/72, case no. IRN 7/2014, and 15 July 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. IRN 12/2014. |  |

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| 06/10/2015<br>AL | EGY 14/2015<br>**Egypt** | **Freedom of expression;** | Letter concerning the arrest, detention and sentencing of three Al Jazeera journalists. On 1 September 2015, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the freedom of opinion and expression issued a press release condemning the sentencing of Mr. Mohamed Fahmy, Mr. Bahar Mohamed and Mr. Peter Greste and urged their immediate release. This statement was endorsed by the Chair-Rapporteur of the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. On 3 September 2015, the Permanent Mission of Egypt submitted a response to the Special Rapporteur, noting Egypt's disappointment at the assertion that "freedom of expression is not respected in Egypt" and emphasizing its constitutional guarantees protecting this right, freedom of the press and media and independence of the judiciary. In his reply, the Special Rapporteur further elaborates on his concerns regarding the situation of freedom of expression in Egypt and also the legitimate limitations to this right. | |
| 06/10/2015<br>JAL | KAZ 3/2015<br>**Kazakhstan** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Allegations of potential human rights violations as a result of a draft law relating to the activities of non-governmental organizations which, if adopted with no further changes, may seriously compromise the independence and existence of civil society organizations in Kazakhstan. According to the information received, on 7 July 2015, a draft law amending the laws on non-profit organizations, on state social order (procurement), and the Code of Administrative Offences, was introduced before the National Parliament. On 23 September 2015, the Lower House of the Parliament approved the draft law in first and second readings and it is reportedly now before the Senate for its consideration. The draft law establishes a new operator with the power to provide governmental and non-governmental grants to non-governmental organizations, which may give the authorities the ability to control the entire sector. The draft law also prohibits associations receiving governmental grants from using more than 10 percent of their funding for administrative expenditures, hence with the potential to compromise the existence of civil society organizations. Further, despite consultations with civil society organizations, some important suggestions made have not been reflected in the final draft. | 26/10/2015 |

| Date<br>Type | Case No<br>Country | Mandate(s) | Summary of the allegation transmitted | Reply |
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| 08/10/2015<br>UA | NGA 1/2015<br>**Nigeria** | **Adequate housing;** | Alleged demolitions and forced evictions of hundreds of homes in Badia, Lagos, and imminent threat of further demolitions and evictions in the same area.<br>According to information received, on 18 and 19 September, and again on 22 September 2015, a demolition squad from the Lagos State Government with support from the Nigerian Police Force began demolishing houses, starting in Badia East and moving toward Badia West in Lagos. Estimates indicate that more than 10,000 people were affected, and have been rendered homeless. Reportedly the eviction was carried out without adequate notice, lack of consultation and no alternative housing options offered to the inhabitants of these settlements. It is further reported that the demolition was technically of a private nature by the traditional landowners, but with support from local authorities and the police. The evictions took place in the middle of the rainy season. | 30/11/2015 |
| 08/10/2015<br>JAL | USA 18/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Health; Summary executions; Terrorism;** | Allegations concerning the airstrike by United States forces on a Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) hospital in Kunduz, northern Afghanistan, which resulted in the deaths of 22 persons and injured 37 others. According to the information received, Kunduz saw fierce fighting since the Taliban overran the city on 28 September 2015. On 3 October 2015, from approximately 2 to 3 a.m., a United States military plane repeatedly bombed the MSF hospital, killing 12 MSF staff and 10 patients (including three children), and injuring 19 MSF staff and 18 other persons.<br>Witnesses claim that the hospital building was "repeatedly and very precisely hit during each aerial raid". Initially, American officials stated that "collateral damage" might have occurred in an attack against Taliban positioned nearby. Later statements however suggest that the attack might have targeted Taliban fighters inside the hospital. The President of the United States of America officially apologized to MSF´s president and announced an investigation. | |

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| 09/10/2015<br>JUA | BRA 7/2015<br>**Brazil** | **Human rights defenders; Indigenous peoples; Summary executions;** | Alleged killing, attempted killing, attacks, death threats and harassment of human rights defenders and indigenous leaders of the Guarani-Kaiowá community in Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil. According to the information received, on 29 August 2015, indigenous leader Mr. Semião Fernandes Vilhalva, aged 25, was killed by a gun shot during a land recuperation operation in the municipality of Antônio João. On 2 September 2015, indigenous leaders Mr. Tonico Benites, Mr. Eliseu Lopes and Mr. Genito Gomes were followed by two unidentified men in a car near the city of Dourados. The following day, four unknown individuals asked in the community about their whereabouts. On 18 September 2015, unidentified armed men violently attacked the indigenous community in Pyelito kue-Mbarakay, in Iguatemi. They were also searching for community leader Mr. Lide Solano Lopes, who managed to escape. On 19 September 2015, unidentified men attempted to repossess the land in the Tekoha Potrero Guasu indigenous community, in Paranhos, beating several members of the community and shooting and wounding its leader, Mr. Elpídio Pires. Judicial harassment and criminalisation was reported against Ms. Inayê Lopes and Mr. Ismarte Martim for defending their communities' rights to their ancestral lands. Two earlier communications were sent on 5 and 28 August 2015 respectively regarding the situation of the Kaiowá and Guarani communities in Mato Grosso do Sul, see above, case nos. BRA 4/2015 and BRA 6/2015. | 09/12/2015 |

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| 09/10/2015<br>JAL | IND 12/2015<br>**India** | **Disappearances; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Alleged continued refusal to renew the passport of a human rights lawyer since 2004 in an attempt to restrict his work in relation to investigations of enforced disappearances. According to the information received, Mr. Parvez Imroz has been denied the renewal of his passport since 2004. His most recent application for the renewal of his travel documents is currently pending with the Government. On 8 August 2015, he was provided assurances by the Inspector General of the Criminal Investigation Department of Jammu and Kashmir that his current application would be successful. However, his passport remains to be renewed. Mr. Imroz has been the subject of five previous communications, sent on 17 January 2012, see A/HRC/20/30, case no. IND 23/2011; 20 November 2008, case no. IND 31/2008; 8 July 2008, case no. IND 18/2008; 14 September 2006, case no. IND 29/2006; 1 May 2006, case no. IND 16/2006. | |

| Date<br>Type | Case No<br>Country | Mandate(s) | Summary of the allegation transmitted | Reply |
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| 09/10/2015<br>JAL | IDN 8/2015<br>**Indonesia** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Indigenous peoples; Summary executions;** | Alleged excessive use of force by Indonesian security forces in Papua Province resulting in the death of nine individuals, of which seven minors, and injuries to several others. According to the information received, on 8 December 2014, Indonesian security forces shot at a group of demonstrators who were protesting against the ill-treatment of a boy by army personnel in Ipakiye Village, Paniai District, Papua Province. Mr. Simon Degei, aged 18, and three 17-year-old boys died as a result and 17 other members of the indigenous community were injured. On 25 June 2015, a junior high school student was killed and another one injured when members of the Indonesian security forces shot at a group of youth who were requesting a monetary fine to passers by on a road in Desa Ugapuga, Kamu Timur District, Dogiyai Regency, in Papua Province. On 17 July 2015, the Indonesian National Police killed a 15 year old boy and injured eleven other individuals following the burning of a mosque in Karabuga, Tolikara Regency, in Papua Province. On 28 August 2015, members of the Indonesian military forces shot at a crowd after they had complained to them for having driven too fast past a street gathering in Timika, Mimika Regency, in Papua Province. Mr. Yulianus Okoare, aged 18, and Mr. Imanuel Marimau, aged 23, died as a result and four others were wounded. On 28 September 2015, the police killed a 17 year old boy and wounded another in GorongGorong, Timika, after the two students had been reported to the police as troublemakers and their fathers had been accused of being members of the Free West Papua Movement. | |

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| 13/10/2015<br>JUA | IRN 18/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of religion; Health; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Iran; Summary executions; Torture;** | Allegations concerning the deteriorating health conditions of a political prisoner. According to the information received, Mr. Mohammed Ali Taheri, who has been sentenced to death for "corruption on earth", is currently engaged in a hunger strike that is approaching two months in length. He is protesting the illegitimacy of the crime he was convicted of as well as the deprivation of due process in the case and for the subsequent appeal. Mr. Taheri's medical condition is deteriorating quickly and he is at risk of death. Mr Taheri has been the subject of five previous urgent appeals sent on 10 July 2013, see A/HRC/25/74, case no. IRN 11/2013; 22 August 2013, see A/HRC/25/74, case no. IRN 13/2013; 24 March 2014, see A/HRC/27/72, case no. IRN 4/2014; 25 November 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. IRN 28/2014; and 10 August 2015, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. IRN 12/2015. | 24/11/2015 |
| 13/10/2015<br>JAL | MDG 1/2015<br>**Madagascar** | **Summary executions; Torture;** | Allégations de violations du droit à la vie et de torture. Selon les informations reçues, depuis la mi-août, les forces de l'ordre malgaches auraient commis de nombreux cas de torture et d'exécutions sommaires dans le cadre des opérations militaires contre des voleurs de bovidés dénommés "dahalos" dans le sud du pays. Ces faits s'ajoutent à des actes répétés du même genre commis entre 2012 et 2015. De graves préoccupations sont exprimées quant au manque d'investigations concernant les cas allégués. | |

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| 14/10/2015<br>JAL | SAU 7/2015<br>**Saudi Arabia** | **Cultural Rights; Freedom of religion;** | Alleged destruction of various Mosques and sites of religious, historical and cultural importance in Saudi Arabia. According to the information received, Government authorities have destroyed many sites linked with important religious and historical figures all over the country, which are considered by many Muslim believers, especially Shias and Sufis, as significant sites for their cultural and religious identity. It is alleged that the destructions have been continuous over years in an effort to prohibit religious practices that are not recognized by the country's dominant interpretation of Islam, in violation of international human rights standards relating to the right to freedom of religion and belief and the right to take part in cultural life, including the right to have access to and enjoy cultural heritage. | 23/10/2015 |
| 14/10/2015<br>AL | USA 19/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Human rights defenders;** | Allegations concerning criminal charges filed against a privacy rights activist. According to the information received, on 14 June 2013, a criminal complaint was filed against Mr. Edward Snowden, as a result of which an arrest warrant was issued in the United States of America and his passport was revoked. Between 25 June and 1 July 2015, Government authorities allegedly interfered with Mr. Snowden's application for political asylum in at least three countries. In August 2013, Mr. Snowden was granted a temporary residence permit to stay in the Russian Federation until August 2017. | 02/12/2015 |

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| 15/10/2015<br>JUA | ALB 1/2015<br>**Albania** | **Adequate housing;**<br>**Minority issues;** | Alleged imminent eviction of approximately 48 Roma families residing in an informal settlement close to the Artificial Lake in Tirana. According to the information received, most of these families face immediate eviction from their homes due to a recent announcement by the Tirana Municipality on 2 October 2015 that their camp will be dismantled. Families with residency in Tirana have reportedly been promised emergency accommodation at Tufina Centre, a transitory emergency centre. While this is not a long term solution it is feared that this temporary solution is being turning into a permanent segregated government-run Roma camp. Other families not registered in Tirana have been offered free return to cities of origin. However, as the families represent some of the most marginalized, poor, least educated and unskilled Roma, returning these families back to cities of origin without other effective measure and programs, will further deteriorate the living conditions of the families. | 29/12/2015 |
| 15/10/2015<br>JAL | KAZ 4/2015<br>**Kazakhstan** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Allegations concerning the imminent adoption of a draft law on non-governmental organizations that may result in violations to the rights of freedom of association and freedom of expression. According to the information received, the draft law amending the laws on non-profit organizations, on state social order (procurement), and the Code of Administrative Offences, which had been adopted in first and second readings by the Lower House of the Parliament on 23 September 2015, was approved by the Senate on 8 October 2015. According to sources, the draft law is currently with the Lower House of the Parliament for its final consideration and could be adopted at any time. The draft law has the potential to compromise the independence and the existence of civil society organizations. Concerns on the aforementioned draft law were the subject of a previous communication sent on 6 October 2015, see above, case no. KAZ 3/2015. | 26/10/2015 |

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| 16/10/2015<br>JAL | IRN 19/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Iran; Summary executions; Violence against women;** | Allegations concerning the executions of juvenile offenders. According to the information received, on 13 October 2015, Ms. Fatemeh Salbehi was executed in Shiraz. In May 2010, Ms. Salbehi was sentenced to death for allegedly having killed her husband in 2008, when Ms. Salbehi was seventeen years old. In September 2013, the Supreme Court granted a request for a judicial review of her case based on a new provision in Iran's 2013 Penal Code. Her entire trial in 2014 lasted barely three hours and her sentence was upheld. On 6 October 2015, Mr. Samad Zahabi was reportedly executed in secret in Kermanshah's Dizel Abad Prison. He was sentenced to death in March 2013 for the killing of a fellow shepherd, which Mr. Zahabi claimed was in self-defence. He was seventeen years old at the time of alleged killing. The Supreme Court had reportedly earlier upheld his death sentence. | 13/11/2015 |
| 16/10/2015<br>JAL | QAT 2/2015<br>**Qatar** | **Cultural Rights; Freedom of expression; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Alleged arbitrary detention of a Qatari poet for writing and reciting poems criticizing the Amir of Qatar and praising the Tunisian revolution. According to the information received, since February 2013, Mr. Mohammed al-Ajami, also known as Mr. Mohammed Ibn al-Dheeb, is serving a 15 years prison sentence for a poem he wrote in 2010 criticizing Sheikh Tamim Al Thani. Irregularities have been reported throughout the legal procedures, including the fact that the legal reasons for reducing the sentence from life imprisonment to 15 years were not clearly exposed. It is also alleged that, for the last two years, Mr. al-Ajami has been subjected to harsh conditions, with periods of solitary confinement during his detention. Serious concerns are raised regarding the compatibility of the sentence with international human rights standards relating to freedom of opinion and expression and the right to take part in cultural life, as well as concerning the right to a fair trial. Mr. Al-Ajami has been the subject of a previous communication sent on 21 December 2012, see A/HRC/23/51, case no. QAT 1/2012. | 02/12/2015 |

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| 16/10/2015<br>JAL | UKR 5/2015<br>**Ukraine** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Alleged physical assault of and threats against a human rights defender advocating for the rights of LGBTI persons. According to the information received, on 14 September 2015, Mr. Nick Carter, was severally beaten by four unidentified men in Kiev, while being insulted on the basis of his sexual orientation during the attack. Since May 2015, Mr. Carter had begun to receive serious threats in connection with his public advocacy for the rights of LGBTI persons in Ukraine. | |
| 19/10/2015<br>JAL | ITA 5/2015<br>**Italy** | **Migrants;**<br>**Trafficking;**<br>**Violence against women;** | Allegations concerning the ongoing repatriation to Nigeria of a group of 68 Nigerian women, possible victims of trafficking in persons currently detained at the Center for Identification and Expulsion of Ponte Galeria in Rome, Italy. According to the information received, except for 13 of these women identified as victims of trafficking, international protection requests for all were rejected. In less than two months, between 25 and 30 women had been repatriated and the rest are awaiting imminent deportation. There is concern that the quality of the screening process conducted by the authorities, the characteristic of the group, the number of irregular migrants arriving by sea and the hidden/ dangerous aspect of human trafficking, may have hampered accurate identification of this group and other potential victims of trafficking during the screening process and their protection consideration. | |

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| 19/10/2015<br>JUA | SAU 8/2015<br>**Saudi Arabia** | **Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged torture and imminent execution of a juvenile offender in Saudi Arabia. According to the information received, in late 2011 and early 2012, Mr. Dawood Hussain al-Marhoon, who was 16 years old at that time, participated in a number of Arab Spring anti-government protests in Qatif, Eastern Province. On 22 May 2012, Saudi government forces reportedly detained him and subsequently subjected him to torture. On 29 January 2014, he was charged with "sowing corruption and breaching security" for his participation in the protests in Qatif. The prosecution relied on the forced confession obtained from him under torture. Mr. Al-Marhoon had no access to legal assistance during his arrest and interrogations. On 29 September 2015, the Specialised Criminal Court confirmed the death sentence against Mr. Al-Marhoon. Concern is raised that the death penalty may be carried out against Mr. Al-Marhoon despite the fact that he was a child at the time of the alleged crime, following an unfair trial, and that he may have been subject to torture. | |
| 20/10/2015<br>JUA | CUB 3/2015<br>**Cuba** | **Arbitrary detention; Cultural Rights; Freedom of expression;** | Alegada detención arbitraria prolongada de un artista por ejercer su derecho a la libre expresión artística. Según la información recibida, el Sr. Danilo Maldonado Machado, conocido como "El Sexto", fue arrestado el 25 de diciembre de 2014 mientras transportaba dos cerdos con los nombres "Raúl" y "Fidel" pintados en ellos, con la intención de liberarlos durante una manifestación artística en el Parque Central de la Habana. Ha permanecido en prisión más de 9 meses, sin embargo no ha sido formalizada ninguna acusación en su contra y aún no ha sido presentado ante un tribunal. El 7 de octubre de 2015 el Sr. Maldonado desistió de una huelga de hambre de un mes, al ser informado que sería liberado luego de 15 días. Sin embargo permanece en prisión al momento de esta acción urgente. Preocupaciones son manifestadas por el hecho de que esta detención sea una violación del derecho a la libertad de expresión y de opinión, del debido proceso y a un juicio justo, incompatibles con los estándares internacionales sobre derechos humanos. | 22/12/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 20/10/2015<br>JAL | MEX 12/2015<br>**México** | **Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture; Violence against women;** | Alegaciones relativas a presuntos actos de tortura a una detenida cometidos por agentes de la autoridad. Según la información recibida, el 10 de julio de 2012, la Sra. Yecenia Armenta Graciano habría sido arrestada en el estado de Sinaloa por miembros de la policía ministerial acusada del homicidio de su marido. El mismo día de su arresto habría sido llevada a un lugar desconocido y torturada. La policía la habría torturado, insultándola, violándola con objetos introducidos en su vagina y ano y amenazándola con violar y matar a sus hijos. Tras la tortura, la Sra. Armenta confesó el homicidio de su marido y habría pasado a custodia policial oficial. En septiembre de 2012 y marzo de 2014 médicos expertos independientes examinaron a la Sra. Armenta y certificaron la consistencia entre las alegaciones de tortura y las evidencias de esta en el cuerpo de la detenida, desmintiendo el informe realizado en 2013 por médicos de la Procuraduría General de la República. En febrero de 2015 el Procurador de Justicia de Sinaloa habría abierto una investigación por tortura, aunque hasta la fecha los policías que pudieron estar implicados permanecen en servicio. | 27/01/2016 |
| 21/10/2015<br>JUA | ETH 4/2015<br>**Ethiopia** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Allegations of enforced disappearance, detention and trumped-up charges against three human rights defenders. According to the information received, on 15 March 2015, three Ethiopian human rights defenders, Messrs. Omot Agwa Okwoy, Ashinie Astin and Jamal Oumar Hojele, were arrested at Addis Ababa airport. They had been travelling to Nairobi, Kenya, in order to participate in a workshop on food security. They were subsequently disappeared for two weeks, before appearing at Maekelawi Police Station. They were detained at the police station for six months without access to their lawyers. On 7 September 2015, they were charged at the Federal High Court in Addis Ababa under the anti-terrorism law. After being charged, they were transferred to Kulinto Prison. Their next trial date is set for 22 October 2015. | |

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| 22/10/2015<br>JUA | AZE 5/2015<br>**Azerbaijan** | **Health; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Alleged ill-treatment and inadequate detention conditions of a human rights defender whilst in detention. According to the information received, while in detention in Baku prison No.6, Mr. Intigam Aliyev has endured harsh and degrading conditions. This has included being detained in a quarantine cell for a period exceeding the legal limit under Azerbaijani law, without a bed; being refused regular and uninterrupted access to a lawyer of his choosing and to his family, and no access to necessary medical care. Mr. Aliyev has also been subject to continuous pressure from prison authorities when requesting these authorities to respect his right to physical and psychological integrity. Mr. Aliyev was the subject of three previous communications sent on 29 May 2015, see A/HRC/30/27, case no. AZE 2/2015; on 15 August 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. AZE 5/2014; and on 1 February 2013, see A/HRC/23/51, case no. AZE 2/2013. | 12/01/2016 |
| 22/10/2015<br>JAL | ISR 6/2015<br>**Israel** | **OPT; Summary executions;** | Alleged killings and cases of excessive use of force in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories resulting in the deaths of 27 individuals and injuries to hundreds of others. According to the information received, a number of attacks at the hands of Palestinian individuals resulted in the killing of six Israeli civilians and one off-duty Israeli soldier, as well as injuries to a further 38 Israelis. Numerous incidents of excessive use of force by Israeli security forces against Palestinians have also been reported in the context of demonstrations and clashes. Security forces have reportedly used live ammunition and excessive force against people who in many cases were not posing an imminent threat of death or serious injury. As a result, 20 Palestinians were killed and at least 370 were injured. Some of the killings may amount to unlawful killings and extrajudicial executions. | |

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| 22/10/2015<br>JAL | ISR 7/2015<br>**Israel** | **Human rights defenders; OPT;** | Allegations of removal orders, travel bans and related court proceedings against a human rights defender. According to the information received, on 19 November 2014, Mr. Daoud al-Ghoul was expelled from Jerusalem, his hometown and place of work, by an order of the Israeli Home Front Command based on secret evidence. On 3 December 2014, he was expelled from the West Bank by another order, following his relocation there. Petitions were subsequently submitted challenging the orders at the Israeli High Court of Justice. On 22 March 2015, the High Court rejected the petitions against the military orders. On 12 March 2015, a third order was issued against Mr. Al-Ghoul, banning him from travelling abroad. On 25 June 2015, Mr. Al-Ghoul was arrested and subsequently charged with 'membership of an illegal association'. He remains in detention in Megiddo Prison. A communication on the same subject was also transmitted to the State of Palestine, see below, case no. PSE 2/2015. | |
| 22/10/2015<br>AL | OTH 8/2015<br>**Other** | **Democratic and equitable international order;** | Alleged denial of public participation of civil society organizations in the processes of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. According to the information received, some States have objected to the participation of civil society in stages of the process of negotiations of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. It is reported that this objection contravenes a decision of the Conference of the Parties meeting as the Conference of the Parties under the Kyoto Protocol indicates that observers should be allowed into any meeting unless a third of States convening the meeting object, which is not the case in the present instance. | 29/10/2015 |

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| 22/10/2015<br>JAL | PSE 2/2015<br>**State of Palestine** | **Human rights defenders; OPT;** | Allegations of removal orders, travel bans and related court proceedings against a human rights defender. According to the information received, on 19 November 2014, Mr. Daoud al-Ghoul was expelled from Jerusalem, his hometown and place of work, by an order of the Israeli Home Front Command's based on secret evidence. On 3 December 2014, he was expelled from the West Bank by another order, following his relocation there. Petitions were subsequently submitted challenging the orders at the Israeli High Court of Justice. On 22 March 2015, the High Court rejected the petitions against the military orders. On 12 March 2015, a third order was issued against Mr. Al-Ghoul, banning him from travelling abroad. On 25 June 2015, Mr. Al-Ghoul was arrested and subsequently charged with 'membership of an illegal association'. He remains in detention in Megiddo Prison. A communication on the same subject was also transmitted to Israel, see above, case no. ISR 7/2015. | |
| 22/10/2015<br>JUA | SYR 2/2015<br>**Syrian Arab Republic** | **Arbitrary detention;<br>Freedom of expression;<br>Human rights defenders;<br>Torture;** | Alleged transfer of an imprisoned human rights defender into incommunicado detention. According to the information received, on 3 October 2015, Mr. Bassel Khartabil, a human rights activist detained since 15 March 2012, was taken from his cell in Adra Prison and transferred to an unknown location. Prison authorities have since refused to provide any information as to his whereabouts. In light of previous allegations of enforced disappearance of Mr. Khartabil in 2012 and consequent reported torture in detention, it is feared that he may now face further attacks on his physical integrity. Mr. Khartabil was the subject of a previous communication sent on 21 September 2012, see A/HRC/22/67, case no. SYR 8/2012. | 29/04/2015<br>30/10/2015 |

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| 23/10/2015<br>JUA | AGO 3/2015<br>**Angola** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Allegations of arbitrary arrest and detention of fourteen human rights activists and a member of the National Air Force as well as charges brought against them and two other human rights activists who remain at liberty. According to the information received, between 20 and 24 June 2015, Mr. Henrique Luaty da Silva Beirão, Mr. Manuel Chivonde, Mr. Nuno Álvaro Dala, Mr. Afonso Mahenda Matias, Mr. Nelson Dibango Mendes dos Santos, Mr. Hitler Jessy Chivonde, Mr. Albano Evaristo Bingobingo, Mr. Sedrick Domingos de Carvalho, Mr. Fernando António Tomás, Mr. Arante Kivuvu Italiano Lopes, Mr. Benedito Jeremias, Mr. José Gomes Hata, Mr. Inocêncio Antônio de Brito, Mr. Domingos da Cruz and Mr. Osvaldo Sérgio Correia Caholo were arrested by Angolan security forces. These arrests occurred after the abovementioned activists had attended several peaceful meetings to raise concerns over good governance, as well as to discuss the principle of non-violent protest. Along with Ms. Rosa Conde and Ms. Laurinda Gouveia, they were formally charged with preparing a rebellion as well as organizing a coup attempt against the current President and the Government of Angola on 16 September 2015, facing up to three years' imprisonment or a corresponding fine. The fourteen detained activists and Mr. Osvaldo Sérgio Correia Caholo were held in pre-trial detention without being charged for more than 90 days as it is authorised by law. On 20 September, some of the detained activists went on hunger strike to protest against their alleged arbitrary detention; Mr. da Silva Beirão has reportedly continued his hunger strike to date. Mr. da Silva Beirão, Mr. Chivonde and Mr. Mahenda Matias were the subject of a previous communication sent on 26/04/2013, see A/HRC/24/21, case no. AGO 2/2013. | 11/12/2015 |

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| 23/10/2015<br>AL | BLZ 2/2015<br>**Belize** | **Indigenous peoples;** | Allegations concerning the lack of implementation of Maya property and other rights arising from customary land tenure, and the ongoing criminal charges concerning Maya villagers arrested on 24 June 2015. According to the information received, the Maya individuals arrested on June 24 2015 are still subject to ongoing criminal charges, and due to appear again in Court on 26 October 2015. In the meantime, construction work seems to be continuing, affecting the indigenous heritage archaeological area of Uxbenká. Updated information has also been received concerning the lack of progress with regard to the implementation of the order by the Caribbean Court of Appeals issued on 22 April 2015 requiring the Government of Belize to identify and protect Maya property and other rights arising from customary land tenure. The Government of Belize has reportedly not yet met with Maya representatives to begin implementation of the order nor has it taken measures not to interfere with this right unless consultation occurs. A previous communication on this subject was sent on 3 July 2015, see above, case no. BLZ 1/2015. | |
| 23/10/2015<br>JAL | OTH 7/2015<br>**Other** | **Adequate housing; Extreme poverty; Haiti; Health; Water and Sanitation;** | Letter sent in follow-up to the allegation letter transmitted to the United Nations Secretary General on 25 September 2014 concerning the cholera outbreak in Haiti in 2010. The letter expresses concern about the inability of the victims of the cholera outbreak to vindicate their rights and to obtain access to a remedy for the harms suffered to date. The letter urges the United Nations to provide the victims with access to a transparent, independent and impartial mechanism to review and decide on their claims in order to ensure adequate reparation. The first letter transmitted on 25 September 2014 is included in A/HRC/28/85, see case no. HTI 3/2014. | |

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| 23/10/2015<br>UA | ESP 9/2015<br>**Spain** | **Torture;** | Alegaciones sobre la posible deportación de un activista saharaui a Marruecos, donde podría ser torturado y encarcelado a cadena perpetua. Según las informaciones recibidas, en octubre y noviembre de 2010, el Sr. Hassanna Aalia habría participado en el campamento de protesta de Gdim Izik. Este campamento habría sido desalojado por la policía marroquí el 8 de noviembre de 2010 con el resultado de 11 policías muertos y más de 200 detenidos. En octubre de 2011 el Sr. Aalia habría solicitado asilo en España, el cual le habría sido denegado en diciembre de 2014 y apelado a la Audiencia Nacional el 27 de febrero de 2015 que consideró medidas cautelares de suspensión de salida obligatoria de España el 26 de marzo de 2015. En febrero de 2013, 25 civiles saharauis habrían sido juzgados en un tribunal militar de Marruecos por estos hechos, entre ellos el Sr. Aalia quien habría sido condenado en ausencia a cadena perpetua. El 5 de octubre de 2015, el Sr. Aalia habría sido detenido por la policía española acusado de estancia ilegal y liberado horas más tarde. La Policía habría elaborado una orden de expulsión a cumplir en 48 horas a pesar de las medidas cautelares de la Audiencia Nacional. | 29/10/2015 |
| 26/10/2015<br>AL | PAN 2/2015<br>**Panama** | **Torture;** | Presuntos tratos crueles, inhumanos, degradantes e incluso tortura contra un hombre durante su detención. Según la información recibida, las condiciones inadecuadas, tales como hacinamiento, dentro de los centros penitenciarios habrían ocasionado una serie de tratos crueles, inhumanos, degradantes e incluso tortura contra el Sr. Nicholas Tuffney, por parte, tanto de otras personas privadas de su libertad, como por parte de las autoridades de los tres centros penitenciarios donde estuvo detenido. Las condiciones inadecuadas de detención habrían impactado negativa la integridad física y mental del Sr. Tuffney. | |

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| 28/10/2015<br>JAL | BRA 8/2015<br>**Brazil** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Terrorism;** | Alleged undue restrictions on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, and of freedom of opinion and expression of proposed terrorism legislation. According to the information received, draft terrorism legislation in Brazil, in particular Law N° 101/2015 and its earlier antecedents in the Chamber of Deputies, Law N° 2.016/2015, would appear to contravene international human rights law and standards and may impose undue restrictions on the rights to associate freely, express opinions, and assemble peacefully. Law N° 101/2015 is reportedly to be approved by the Senate of Brazil on 28 October 2015. A previous communication concerning draft legislation governing the crime of terrorism was sent on 4 April 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. BRA 3/2014. | 30/10/2015 |
| 28/10/2015<br>JUA | EGY 15/2015<br>**Egypt** | **Freedom of expression; Torture;** | Alleged torture and ill-treatment of a journalist during his detention. According to the information received, on 22 January 2015, Mr. Hassan Mahmoud Ragab el Kabany was arrested by members of Homeland Security and the General Investigations Department and detained at the Security Forces Camp in Sheikh Zayed. He was reportedly tortured for two consecutive days and forced to confess crimes in retaliation for his work as a journalist. Mr. El Kabany was not authorised to see a doctor. On 24 January 2015, he was charged and detained at Tora high security prison (al Aqrab prison). In February 2015, Mr. El Kabany went on a hunger strike in protest of his conditions of detention – he was not allowed to exercise or see his family regularly – as well as the absence of investigation into the alleged torture subsequent to his arrest. The hunger strike has ended but he still suffers from various injuries and has been denied access to a doctor. On 20 September 2015, Mr. El Kabany was again violently beaten and forced to sleep on the floor without a blanket. | 28/12/2015 |
| 28/10/2015<br>AL | GTM 3/2015<br>**Guatemala** | **Health;** | Presunto deterioro progresivo de la atención de salud en el Hospital General San Juan de Dios de Guatemala. Según la información recibida, el Hospital General San Juan de Dios estaría enfrentando una escasez de medicamentos y de insumos médicos necesarios, saturación de la infraestructura, escaso mantenimiento, así como falta de personal capacitado para el tratamiento de enfermedades, reflejando la situación de crisis hospitalaria a nivel nacional que se ha agudizado en los últimos años. | |

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| 29/10/2015<br>JUA | CHN 10/2015<br>**China (People's Republic of)** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary and incommunicado detention, and targeting of a human rights defender as well as incommunicado residential surveillance of a human rights lawyer. According to the information received, on 25 of March 2015, Mr. Chen Yunfei was detained by police from the Special Task Force in Chengdu Budi County and brought to Xinjin County Detention Center. On 3 April 2015 he was formally arrested on suspicion of 'inciting subversion of state power' and "creating disturbance". He is reportedly held in incommunicado detention. Mr. Yunfei has been prevented from his right to legal counsel, and one of his lawyers, Mr. Sui Muqing, has been placed under incommunicado "residential surveillance at a designated location". | 06/01/2016 |
| 29/10/2015<br>JAL | HRV 1/2015<br>**Croatia** | **Freedom of religion; Minority issues; Racism;** | Alleged increasing number of cases of ethnically motivated incidents, including hate speech and intolerance directed against the Serbian minority in Croatia. According to the information received, there has been an increased use of the Ustasha salute and symbols, and other graffiti with pro-Nazi, anti-Serb intent, and documented instances of severe hate speech that incite physical violence, as well as violent physical attacks on individuals and attacks on property, including sites of religious or historical significance, on the basis of Serbian ethnicity. The Croatian authorities have reportedly failed to effectively and systematically condemn such incidents. | 15/01/2016 |
| 29/10/2015<br>JUA | GIN 3/2015<br>**Guinea** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Health; Human rights defenders;** | Allégations quant à l'arrestation et la détention arbitraire d'un défenseur des droits de l'homme et leader syndical à Conakry, en Guinée. Selon les informations reçues, le 19 septembre 2015, le secrétaire général du Syndicat national des militaires retraités et veuves de Guinée et ancien membre des forces armées guinéenne, M. Jean Dougou Guilavogui, a été arrêté à Conakry. Son engagement syndical ainsi que son soutien à l'opposition ont été critiqués durant la détention. M. Guilavogui a été inculpé le 25 septembre et le 29 septembre une enquête a été ouverte pour outrage au chef de l'Etat et diffamation. M. Guilavogui a des problèmes cardiaques et il souffre également d'autres problèmes médicaux, nécessitant une attention médicale adéquate qui n'a pas encore été fournie. De graves préoccupations sont exprimées quant à l'état de santé de M. Guilavogui. | |

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| 29/10/2015<br>JAL | IRN 16/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Independence of judges and lawyers; Iran; Summary executions; Torture;** | Allegations concerning the execution of a Kurdish man on charges of moharebeh (enmity against God) in Iran. On 26 August 2015, Mr. Behrouz Alkhani, a 30-year-old Kurdish man, was executed while awaiting the outcome of a Supreme Court appeal. He had reportedly been held in solitary confinement without access to a lawyer for over a year prior to his execution. Mr. Alkhani was arrested in January 2010 in West Azerbaijan and, in 2011, convicted and sentenced to death on charges of "effective collaboration with PJAK" (Party of Free Life of Kurdistan) and "enmity against God (moharebeh) for his alleged role in the assassination of the Prosecutor of Khoy, in the West Azerbaijan province. Following his execution, authorities have reportedly refused to return his body to his family for burial. | |
| 29/10/2015<br>JUA | IRN 20/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Cultural Rights; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Health; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Iran; Torture; Violence against women;** | Alleged arbitrary detention, sentencing to flogging and subjecting human rights activists to a virginity test. According to the information received, Ms. Fatemeh Ekhtesari was sentenced to over 11 years in prison for her collection of poetry. Mr. Mehdi Moosavi was sentenced to six years in prison for his poetry. Ms. Atena Farghadani was sentenced to over twelve years for a cartoon. All three were also charged with "illegitimate sexual relationship short of adultery" for shaking hands with a non-relative of the opposite sex. Ms. Ekhtesari and Mr. Moosavi were sentenced to ninety-nine lashes. Ms. Farghadani has not been sentenced but has already been subjected to forced virginity and pregnancy testing. Ms. Narges Mohammadi, a prominent Iranian rearrested 5 May 2015, has been subjected to harassment and deprived of necessary medical care. Ms Farghadani and Ms Mohammadi have been the subjects of seven previous communications, the most recent of which was sent 4 June 2015, see above, case no. IRN 6/2015. | |
| 29/10/2015<br>JUA | MMR 9/2015<br>**Myanmar** | **Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Myanmar;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of two individuals including a human rights defender. According to information received, on 12 October 2015, Ms. Chaw Sandi Tun was arrested in Yangon following a satirical post she shared on Facebook regarding the Myanmar army. She is reportedly detained in Maubin prison. Mr. Patrick Kum Jaa Lee, a human rights defender, was arrested without a warrant on 14 October 2015 following a comment he posted on Facebook regarding a picture mocking the army. He is reportedly detained in Insein prison. | |

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| 30/10/2015<br>JAL | BHR 6/2015<br>**Bahrain** | **Cultural Rights;**<br>**Extreme poverty;**<br>**Freedom of religion;** | Alleged patterns of continuous discrimination against Shia citizens, including through cultural, economic, educational and social government policies in Bahrain since 2011. According to the information received, peaceful protestors and other Shia citizens have experienced excessive use of force during and after the protests of 2011, with Shia religious clergy being particularly targeted. Government violence has also led to the destruction of many Shia mosques and sites of religious and cultural significance and of other signs of Shia presence in the country. The official historical narrative which systematically undermines the role of Baharna and Shia religious and cultural heritage in the country is also promoted in the official school curricula and media. Shia citizens allegedly also experience discrimination in access to citizenship, public sector employment and government social policies, particularly housing and welfare programs, making them more vulnerable to poverty. Various aspects of this situation, including the destruction of two mosques and withdrawal of citizenship, have already been raised in previous communications sent on 5 may 2011, see A/HRC/18/51, case no. BHR 8/2011, and on 29 November 2012, see A/HRC/23/51, case no. BHR 12/2012. | 25/12/2015 |
| 30/10/2015<br>JAL | SGP 2/2015<br>**Singapore** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Alleged charges brought against a human rights defender and blogger for organizing a peaceful assembly. According to the information received, on 27 September 2014, Ms. Han Hui Hui organized a peaceful protest in Hong Lim Park to raise awareness about problems with Singapore's Central Provident Fund. On 10 October 2014, Ms. Hui was questioned for eight hours in relation to this protest. On 27 October 2014, she was charged, along with five other protestors, with creating a public nuisance and organizing a demonstration without approval. Her next court date is scheduled for 24 February 2016. | 24/12/2015 |

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| 30/10/2015<br>JUA | SGP 3/2015<br>**Singapore** | **Summary executions;**<br>**Torture;** | Alleged violations of the rights to life, liberty and security of the person.<br>According to the information received, Mr. Kho Jabing, a Malaysian national, and a co-defendant were convicted and sentenced to death for a murder at the time when the death penalty was still mandatory for such crimes in the country. Mr. Jabing appealed the decision and he was resentenced to life imprisonment. Following a subsequent appeal of the Prosecution he was sentenced to death. This decision was confirmed by the High Court and Mr. Jabing's mercy petition was rejected. He may be executed at any time. Concern is raised that the death penalty may be carried out against Mr. Jabing based on the mandatory nature of this punishment at the time of the alleged crime. | |
| 30/10/2015<br>UA | SWE 1/2015<br>**Sweden** | **Minority issues;** | Alleged imminent eviction of approximately 150 to 200 Roma individuals, including minors and pregnant women, residing in an informal settlement known as Sorgenfrilägret in the municipality of Malmö. According to the information received, Roma residents in the settlement face immediate eviction from their homes scheduled for 1 November 2015 due to a recent announcement by the Malmö Municipality on 27 October 2015 that their camp will be dismantled. The decision by the Municipality was made through a special legal mechanism (rättelse) that empowers authorities to act independently and is intended to be used in cases where there is a particular necessity to act to prevent environmental damage, despite the fact that this case  is currently pending trial before the Environmental Court of Affairs. | 13/11/2015 |

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| 30/10/2015<br>JUA | VNM 1/2015<br>**Viet Nam** | **Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged violations of the rights to life, liberty and security of the person, and fair trial, as well as the right to be free from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment. According to the information received, Mr. Le Van Manh was sentenced to death in 2005 for robbery, murder and rape in Yen Thinh Ward, Yen Dinh District (Thanh Hoa Province). During his detention, it is alleged that he was severely beaten and coerced to confess to crimes. Following seven court hearings, including three trials, three appeals and one cassation, between 2005 to 2008, the High Court upheld his death sentence in October 2015. In another case, a 17-year-old boy was arrested on 5 August 2015 for robbery. He was taken to an adult prison where he was prevented from receiving visits from his family. It is alleged that he was beaten during several days while in prison as revealed by the multiple injuries found on his body. He died on 10 October 2015. The authorities reportedly refused to proceed with the autopsy properly and claimed that the boy was beaten by a cellmate. His mother is allegedly being threatened by the police because she complained to the United Nations human rights mechanisms. | |
| 02/11/2015<br>JAL | TUN 2/2015<br>**Tunisie** | **Arbitrary detention; Health; Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture;** | Allégations d'abus physiques, d'examen médical dégradant, de procédure judiciaire irrégulière, et de condamnation pénale d'un homme de 22 ans apparemment fondée uniquement sur son orientation sexuelle perçue. Selon les informations reçues, le 6 septembre 2015, M. X a été arrêté par la police et interrogé sur la mort violente d'un autre homme. Les policiers ont accusé M. X d'avoir eu des relations homosexuelles avec l'homme décédé, puis ils l'ont physiquement et verbalement abusé pendant l'interrogatoire. Sous cette contrainte, M. X a confirmé avoir eu une relation homosexuelle avec la personne décédée. Il a par la suite été soumis à un examen médical dégradant et humiliant mené sans son consentement éclairé. Le 22 septembre 2015, Mr. X a été condamné à un an d'emprisonnement pour violation de l'article 230 du code pénal tunisien qui criminalise la sodomie. La procédure judiciaire dont M. X a fait l'objet a été menée sans qu'il puisse bénéficier d'un avocat. | |

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| 03/11/2015<br>JUA | CHN 12/2015<br>**China (People's Republic of)** | **Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Torture;** | Alleged enforced disappearance of two human rights defenders and the 16-year-old son of a detained human rights defender. According to the information received, on 6 October 2015, Myanmar police arrived at a guesthouse in Mongla, Myanmar, where Mr. Tang Zhishun and Mr. Xing Qingxian, both human rights defenders, and the 16-year-old son of a detained legal activist and woman human rights defender were staying whilst on holiday. All three are Chinese nationals. Police searched the room before taking the three individuals to an unknown location. Police subsequently denied that the detention had taken place, and that they had any knowledge of the whereabouts of Mr. Zhishun, Mr. Qingxian and the 16-year-old child. On 8 October 2015, Mr. Qingxian's home in Chengdu, China, was searched by Chinese national security police. The 16-year-old child is now held under house arrest in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, China. The whereabouts of Messrs. Zhishun and Qingxian remain unknown. A communication with similar content is being addressed to the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, see below, case no. MMR 10/2015. | |
| 03/11/2015<br>JUA | MMR 10/2015<br>**Myanmar** | **Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Myanmar; Torture;** | Alleged enforced disappearance of two human rights defenders and the 16-year-old son of a detained human rights defender. According to the information received, on 6 October 2015, Myanmar police arrived at a guesthouse in Mongla, Myanmar, where Mr. Tang Zhishun and Mr. Xing Qingxian, both human rights defenders, and the 16-year-old son of a detained legal activist and woman human rights defender were staying whilst on holiday. All three are Chinese nationals. Police searched the room before taking the three individuals to an unknown location. Police subsequently denied that the detention had taken place, and that they had any knowledge of the whereabouts of Mr. Zhishun, Mr. Qingxian and the 16-year-old child. On 8 October 2015, Mr. Qingxian's home in Chengdu, China, was searched by Chinese national security police. The 16-year-old child is now held under house arrest in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, China. The whereabouts of Messrs. Zhishun and Qingxian remain unknown. A communication with similar content is being addressed to the Government of the People's Republic of China, see above, case no. CHN 12/2015. | |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 04/11/2015<br>JUA | MAR 7/2015<br>**Maroc** | **Arbitrary detention; Health; Torture;** | Allégations d'harcèlement constant, d'actes d'intimidations, et de mauvais traitements, de la part de l'administration pénitentiaire ainsi que de l'absence ou d'un retard disproportionné des enquêtes et poursuites des auteurs présumés d'actes de torture. Selon les informations reçues, M. Ali Aarrass ferait actuellement régulièrement l'objet de mauvais traitements de la part de l'administration pénitentiaire. Il est en outre signalé que les autorités judiciaires marocaines ont failli à leur obligation de mener des enquêtes et poursuites indépendantes et rapides de toutes allégations portant sur des actes de torture et d'autres formes de traitements cruels, inhumains et dégradants dont M. Aarrass aurait fait l'objet. M. Aarrass continue sa grève de la faim et se trouve actuellement dans un état "cadavérique". M. Aarrass a fait l'objet de deux communications précédentes en date du 4 décembre 2012, voir A/HRC/23/51, cas MAR 11/2012, et du 14 aout 2013, voir A/HRC/25/74, cas MAR 2/2013. Puisque M. Aarrass est de nationalité belge et marocaine, le Gouvernement de la Belgique a reçu une copie de cette communication. | 04/12/2015 |
| 05/11/2015<br>JUA | MMR 11/2015<br>**Myanmar** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Myanmar;** | Allegations of multiple restrictions affecting the enjoyment of the right to freedom of opinion and expression in advance of the parliamentary election in Myanmar on 8 November, 2015. According to the information received, four staffers of the National League of Democracy were charged for failing to seek permission for campaigning on 12 October 2015. An independent candidate was arrested for participating in a peaceful protest and on 26 October 2015 another group of activists of the National League for Democracy was questioned by authorities before being allowed to campaign. Allegations also refer to restrictions of political rallies and political messages which need to be approved by the Union Election Commission before going public. Finally complaints are made on the lack of information on the electoral process in rural areas. | 11/01/2016 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 05/11/2015<br>JAL | RUS 7/2015<br>**Russian Federation** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Human rights defenders;**<br>**Migrants;** | Retrospective charging and trial of a human rights defender. According to the information received, since 2011, Ms. Tatiana Kotlyar has allowed migrants and asylum seekers to register her home as their place of residence free of charge in order to enable them to apply for citizenship in the Russian Federation. On 2 January 2014, amendments were made to Articles 322.2 and 322.3 of the Criminal Code, criminalizing the false registration of migrants. Ms. Kotlyar had previously spoken out in opposition to proposals of such amendments. On 11 March 2014, a criminal case was opened against Ms. Kotlyar alleging she violated the amended articles. On 30 April 2014, a psychiatric examination of Ms. Kotlyar was ordered by the investigating officer in her case. This was subsequently annulled, before the opening of a second criminal case against Ms. Kotlyar, again in relation to registration of migrants. The trial of Ms. Kotlyar began at the Magistrates Court of Obninsk City on 2 October 2015. The next hearing is scheduled for 6 November 2015. | |
| 06/11/2015<br>JAL | IND 13/2015<br>**India** | **Summary executions;**<br>**Torture; Violence against women;** | Allegation of kidnapping, rape and murder. According to information received, Ms. Huidrom Sharda Devi, 21 years old, from Manipur, India, was allegedly kidnapped and raped on 26 October 2014. Ms. Laishram Surmila Devi, 10 years old, from Manipur, India, was allegedly murdered on 22 January 2014. Ms. Nengneikim Haokip, 18 years old, from Manipur, India, was allegedly raped by personnel of the Assam Rifles, a paramilitary group, on 13 March 2007. Ms. Thangjam Manorama Devi, 32 years old, from, Manipur, India was allegedly raped, tortured and murdered by personnel of the Assam Rifles on 10 July 2004. Some of these violations are reported to be traced to the Armed Forces Special Powers Act of 1958, which allows the armed forces to be deployed in internal conflicts and to enjoy unlimited powers to arrest, search, and shoot to kill. In these cases, the perpetrators have legal immunity from prosecution. | |

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| 06/11/2015<br>JAL | IDN 9/2015<br>**Indonesia** | **Freedom of religion; Minority issues;** | Alleged attacks by protesters on, as well as Government-enforced closure and demolition of, Christian Catholic and Protestant churches in Aceh Singkil Province, Indonesia. According to the information received, on 12 October 2015, the Government decided to close down 10 churches. On 13 October 2015, a large number of anti-Christian protesters gathered outside a Christian Protestant church in Suka Makur village. The protest turned violent and the church was burnt down. Protesters then attempted to attack another church in Dangguran village, but the police and the military intervened and protected the church. One protester was killed in the resulting confrontation. The attacks on churches have caused the internal displacement of around 4,000 Christians, who have fled to the neighbouring province North Sumatra. Some of the internally displaced persons have returned to Aceh Province, but the situation is still tense and the Christian community fear further attacks. | |

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| 06/11/2015<br>JAL | RWA 2/2015<br>**Rwanda** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Allégations quant aux arrestations, suivies de leurs libérations, de sept membres d'une organisation non gouvernementale de défense des droits de l'homme au Rwanda, ainsi que des allégations d'actes de harcèlement envers les membres de cette organisation. Selon les informations reçues, le 12 octobre 2015, M. Epimack Kwokwo aurait été arrêté arbitrairement par deux agents de l'immigration, puis conduit au siège de l'immigration pour être interrogé plusieurs heures, avant d'être libéré, au sujet de ses papiers d'identité et du statut d'enregistrement de l'organisation non gouvernementale, la Ligue des droits de la personne dans la région des Grands Lacs (LDGL). Le 13 octobre 2015, les sept membres du Comité directeur de la LDGL incluant Mme Gertrude Kazoviyo, M. Innocent Sibomana, M. Jules Joseph Kanjira, M. Félicien Gashema, M. Andace Gahiga, M. Anaclet Hakizimana et M. Jean-Pierre Rutikanga, auraient été arrêtés lors d'une réunion au siège de la LDGL à Kabeza, ville de Kigali. Ils ont été libérés après avoir été interrogés sur la légalité de l'Assemblée générale de la LDGL en République Démocratique du Congo les 2 et 3 octobre. Le 14 octobre, M. Kwokwo aurait ensuite été convoqué par la police pour 'être interrogé sur la légalité de l'Assemblée générale ainsi que sur la légalité du nouveau Comité directeur de la LGDL'. Différents actes de harcèlement envers les membres de la LDGL auraient été rapportés. Une lettre d'allégation faisant référence à la situation d'un membre de la LDGL, avait été envoyée le 18 mars 2011, voir A/HRC/18/51, cas RWA 1/2011. | |

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| 09/11/2015<br>JAL | MNG 1/2015<br>**Mongolia** | **Environment; Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders;** | Alleged arbitrary deportation of an environmental civil society activist in relation to the exercise of his rights to freedom of opinion and expression. According to the information received, Mr Eugene Simonov is an environmental activist and a representative of Rivers without Boundaries. It is reported that, when exiting Mongolia to China through the Zamyn Uud border-crossing on 12 August 201[illegible], he received a black stamp in his passport marked "Deported from Mongolia for 10 years till August 12, 2024" without any notification. Serious concern is expressed that his deportation may be linked to his work as a defender of environmental rights and his non-governmental organization investigations into plans by the Government, with funding from the World Bank, to build a cascade of hydro-dams and water transfer projects in Lake Baikal transboundary basin. | |
| 09/11/2015<br>AL | SAU 9/2015<br>**Saudi Arabia** | **Summary executions;** | Alleged killings of and injuries caused to civilians as a result of indiscriminate air strikes led by coalition forces in Yemen, of which Saudi Arabia is a leading member. According to the information received, on 12 July 2015, at least 20 civilians were killed during an airstrike which hit the Al-Umal Residential Complex in AL Naser Area, Sa'wan, Bani Hushaish District, Sana'a. On 28 September 2015, more than 33 people were reportedly killed in a coalition-led airstrike while attending a wedding celebration in Wahijah village, outside the port city of Al Mukha, Taizz Governorate. On the same day, two humanitarian workers were killed alongside other civilians during an airstrike in the Al-Swaida area, Al Wazi'iyah District, Taizz. On 6 October 2015, a coalition-led air strike hit a wedding party in Yemen's Dhamar Governorate, resulting in at least 47 civilians dead and 58 injured, among them many women and children. A communication with the same content is being addressed to the Government of Yemen, see below, case no. YEM 2/2015. | |

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| 09/11/2015<br>JAL | VEN 12/2015<br>**Venezuela** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Alegaciones de robo a mano armada en el domicilio de un defensor de derechos humanos junto con su hijo después de comentarios de carácter derogatorio y estigmatizante contra su organización de derechos humanos por parte de las autoridades. Según las informaciones recibidas, el 1 de octubre de 2015, el Sr. Marino Alvarado junto con su hijo de nueve años, fueron objetos de un robo a mano armada en su domicilio. El 15 de agosto de 2015, el presidente de Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro, realizó comentarios de carácter derogatorio contra el Sr. Alvarado y la organización que él representa. Se expresa grave preocupación por informaciones recibidas indicando que las y los defensores son objetos de ataques físicos y campañas de desprestigio y estigmatización relacionados con su trabajo de promoción y defensa de los derechos humanos y las libertades fundamentales. Sr. Marino Alvarado fue objeto de comunicaciones anteriores, fechadas el 11 de julio de 2011, véase A/HRC/20/30, caso VEN 2/2011; el 23 de marzo de 2012, véase A/HRC/21/49, caso VEN 1/2012; y el 19 de febrero de 2015, véase A/HRC/29/50, caso VEN 2/2015. | 25/01/2016 |
| 09/11/2015<br>AL | YEM 2/2015<br>**Yemen** | **Summary executions;** | Alleged killings of and injuries caused to civilians as a result of indiscriminate air strikes led by coalition forces in Yemen. According to the information received, on 12 July 2015, at least 20 civilians were killed during an airstrike which hit the Al-Umal Residential Complex in AL Naser Area, Sa'wan, Bani Hushaish District, Sana'a. On 28 September 2015, more than 33 people were reportedly killed in a coalition-led airstrike while attending a wedding celebration in Wahijah village, outside the port city of Al Mukha, Taizz Governorate. On the same day, two humanitarian workers were killed alongside other civilians during an airstrike in the Al-Swaida area, Al Wazi'iyah District, Taizz. On 6 October 2015, a coalition-led air strike hit a wedding party in Yemen's Dhamar Governorate, resulting in at least 47 civilians dead and 58 injured, among them many women and children. A communication with the same content is being addressed to the Government of Saudi Arabia, see above, case no. SAU 9/2015. | |

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| 10/11/2015<br>JAL | EGY 16/2015<br>**Egypt** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture;** | Allegations concerning the arrest, detention and charges to be brought against a journalist and human rights defender. According to the information received, in October 2015, Mr. Hossam Bahgat published a number of articles on the Egyptian military. On 8 November 2015, Mr. Bahgat appeared before military intelligence for interrogation in compliance with a summons issued to him. He was subsequently arrested and transferred to the Office of the Military Prosecutor, where he was further interrogated about his written work. He reportedly remains in detention in an unknown location pending investigation and has not been charged. Grave concern is expressed that the alleged motivation for his arrest and detention relates to his legitimate exercise of his rights to freedom of opinion and expression. | |
| 11/11/2015<br>JAL | HND 3/2015<br>**Honduras** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Summary executions;** | Alegaciones de muertes violentas y ataques contra defensores y defensoras de derechos de las personas lesbianas, gays, bisexuales, trans e intersexuales (LGBTI). Según la información recibida, el 23 de junio de 2015, el periodista y defensor de derechos de las personas LGBTI, Juan Carlos Cruz Andara, habría sido víctima de una muerte violenta en Puerto Cortés. El 25 de junio de 2015, la defensora de derechos LGBTI y miembro de la Asociación Arcoiris, Sra. Angy Ferreira, habría sido encontrada muerta a unas cuadras de la oficina de Arcoiris. El 23 de agosto 2015, la defensora transgénero de derechos LGBTI Sra. Violeta Rivas habría aparecido muerta de forma violenta en El Carrisal, Tegucigalpa. El 11 de octubre de 2015, el abogado de derechos humanos y defensor de la comunidad LGBTI, Sr. Francisco Mencía, fue atacado y dejado por muerto cerca de su casa en Tegucigalpa. El Sr. Mencía ha colaborado con la Asociación por una Vida Mejor (APUVIMEH), la cual ha sido objeto de tres comunicaciones anteriores enviadas al Gobierno de su Excelencia con fecha de 29 de agosto de 2013, véase A/HRC/25/74, caso HND 5/2013; el 20 de enero de 2014, véase A/HRC/26/21, caso HND 1/2014; y el 9 de diciembre de 2014, véase A/HRC/29/50, caso HND 8/2014. | |

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| 11/11/2015<br>JUA | IRN 21/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Freedom of religion; Independence of judges and lawyers; Iran; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged imminent executions of two men who were under the age of 18 at the time of the alleged offences and of one political activist in Iran, following repeated torture during detention and the extraction of confessions under torture and after trials that did not comply with due process and fair trial guarantees. According to the information received, Mr. Mohammad Ali Zehi is currently imprisoned in Adelabad Prison, where he is to be executed for his alleged involvement in drug trafficking for activities that occurred when he was under the age of 18. Mr. Milad Azimi was convicted for allegedly causing death by stabbing in a fight that the court has acknowledged occurred when he was 17 years old. Mr. Shahram Ahmadi was convicted of "waging war against God" through "links to Salafi groups" and "propaganda against the system, through participating in ideological and political classes and possessing, selling, and buying books and CDs of speeches related to Sunni beliefs." He is being held in Raja'i Shahr Prison. All three men are at risk of imminent execution. | |
| 11/11/2015<br>JAL | RUS 6/2015<br>**Russian Federation** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Freedom of religion; Minority issues;** | Alleged persecution of Jehovah´s Witnesses in the Russian Federation. According to the information received, 16 Jehovah's Witnesses are currently on trial for their religious activities, all religious literature produced by Jehovah´s Witnesses is banned from online access and importation, and their international website has been blocked. The Government, backed by a decision of the Supreme Court of 2 December 2015, considers Jehovah's Witnesses an "extremist" organization. It has criminalized all of its activities, including organizing and attending religious services, and its doctrine, liquidated local Jehovah's Witnesses groups, prosecuted and convicted its leaders, seized shipments of religious books and ordered all Internet providers to block access to the official international website of Jehovah´s Witnesses. | 21/12/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 12/11/2015<br>JAL | AUS 6/2015<br>**Australia** | **Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Mercenaries; Migrants; Torture;** | Allegations of undue restrictions, harassment, intimidation and retaliation against human rights defenders and journalists documenting, and reporting on the situation of asylum seekers held at immigration detention facilities under the control of the Government of Australia. According to the information received, these human rights defenders and journalists are documenting and reporting on the conditions of detention and allegations of ill-treatment in these centres, which may amount to torture. They are also reporting on the impact of the adoption of the Border Force Act, which includes provisions leading to the potential criminalization of journalists and human rights defenders, as well as restrictions to the right to freedom of expression. A communication with the same content is being addressed to the Governments of Nauru and Papua New Guinea, see below, case no. NRU 2/2015 and case no. PNG 1/2015 respectively. | 12/01/2016<br>15/01/2016 |
| 12/11/2015<br>JAL | BLR 2/2015<br>**Belarus** | **Belarus; Human rights defenders;** | Alleged detention, searching and charging of a human rights defender. According to the information received, on 25 August 2015, Mr. Leanid Sudalenka was detained for two hours at the Minsk regional customs office at Molodechno station, Belarus, and subjected to a personal search before being released. On 14 October 2015, Mr. Sudalenka was charged under article 23.4 of the Administrative Code with disobeying the demands of persons in the execution of their duties, in relation to the incident on 25 August 2015. His trial commenced on 20 October 2015, however, the case was referred back to the Department of Customs Investigation to correct deficiencies in the case. Mr. Sudalenka was the subject of two previous communications sent on 17 April 2015, see A/HRC/18/51, case no. BLR 1/2015, and on 25 February 2011, see A/HRC/18/51, case no. BLR 2/2011. | |
| 12/11/2015<br>JAL | NRU 2/2015<br>**Nauru** | **Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Mercenaries; Migrants; Torture;** | Allegations of undue restrictions, harassment, intimidation and retaliation against human rights defenders and journalists documenting, and reporting on the situation of asylum seekers held at immigration detention facilities in Nauru. According to the information received, these human rights defenders and journalists are documenting and reporting on the conditions of detention, and allegations of ill-treatment in these centres, which may amount to torture. A communication with the same content is being addressed to the Governments of Australia, see above, case no. AUS 6/2015, and Papua New Guinea, see below, case no. PNG 1/2015. | |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 12/11/2015<br>JAL | PNG 1/2015<br>**Papua New Guinea** | **Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders; Mercenaries; Migrants; Torture;** | Allegations of undue restrictions, harassment, intimidation and retaliation against human rights defenders and journalists documenting, and reporting on the situation of asylum seekers held at immigration detention facilities at Manus Island. According to the information received, these human rights defenders and journalists are documenting and reporting on the conditions of detention and allegations of ill-treatment in these centres, which may amount to torture A communication with the same content is being addressed to the Governments of Australia and Nauru, see above, case no. AUS 6/2015 and case no. NRU 2/2015 respectively. | |
| 13/11/2015<br>JUA | BDI 5/2015<br>**Burundi** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions; Torture; Truth, justice, reparation & guarantees on non-rec;** | Allégations de violations du droit à la vie et des libertés d'expression, de réunion et d'association pacifique ainsi que de cas de torture. Selon les informations reçues, le corps de M. Welli Nzitonda, aurait été retrouvé dans une maison du quartier de Mutakura où il avait été arrêté deux heures auparavant par la police. Ce fait s'ajoute à de nombreuses allégations d'exécutions arbitraires, détentions arbitraires, torture, de violations des libertés d'expression, de réunion pacifique et d'association, des restrictions à la liberté de circulation, ainsi que des allégations de discours d'incitation à la violence de la part de représentants de l'Etat. | 07/01/2016<br>29/01/2016 |
| 13/11/2015<br>UA | FRA 6/2015<br>**France** | **Disability;** | Lettre concernant l'adoption prochaine de l'amendement No. 1219 à la loi No. 2005-102 pour l'égalité des droits et des chances, la participation et la citoyenneté des personnes handicapées en France, portant sur l'ouverture d'un dispositif d'exception aux mesures de compensation. Selon les informations reçues, le projet de modification de la loi en discussion au Parlement français prévoit une dérogation au dispositif garantissant le droit des personnes handicapées à une réponse adaptée à leurs besoins et des mesures de compensation. | 26/01/2016 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 16/11/2015<br>JUA | AUS 7/2015<br>**Australia** | **Health; Human rights defenders; Migrants; Torture; Violence against women;** | Allegations concerning the alleged sexual violence against an Iranian woman and ill-treatment faced by her and her brother in the context of their detention in the Australia Regional Processing Centre in Nauru and their interaction with the Nauru National Police force. According to the information received an Iranian woman was assaulted and raped while she was on a community visit outside the Australia Regional Processing Centre of Nauru and did not receive adequate and timely medical treatment for her physical and mental health. In addition, her brother was subject to ill-treatment by the Nauru Police Force. Concern was expressed regarding impunity and lack of access to justice for asylum seekers who are victims of serious human rights violations in Nauru, such as sexual violence and ill-treatment and with regard to the targeting of human rights defenders, including asylum seekers who defend rights within these detention facilities. A communication with the same content is being addressed to the Government of Nauru, see below, case no. NRU 3/2015. | 17/12/2015 |
| 16/11/2015<br>JUA | NRU 3/2015<br>**Nauru** | **Health; Human rights defenders; Migrants; Torture; Violence against women;** | Allegations concerning the alleged sexual violence against an Iranian woman and ill-treatment faced by her and her brother in the context of their detention in the Australia Regional Processing Centre in Nauru and their interaction with the Nauru National Police Force. According to the information received an Iranian woman was assaulted and raped while she was on a community visit outside the Australia Regional Processing Centre of Nauru and did not receive adequate and timely medical treatment for her physical and mental health. In addition, her brother was subject to ill- treatment by the Nauru Police Force. Concern was expressed regarding impunity and lack of access to justice for asylum seekers who are victims of serious human rights violations in Nauru, such as sexual violence and ill-treatment and with regard to the targeting of human rights defenders, including asylum seekers who defend rights within these detention facilities. A communication with the same content is being addressed to the Government of Australia, see above, case no. AUS 7/2015. | |

| Date<br>Type | Case No<br>Country | Mandate(s) | Summary of the allegation transmitted | Reply |
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| 16/11/2015<br>JUA | OTH 9/2015<br>**Other** | **Disability; Health; Independence of judges and lawyers; Somalia; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged imminent execution of a man with a psychosocial disability who is reportedly at risk of imminent execution in the autonomous region of Somaliland, in Somalia. According to the information received, Mr. Abdullahi Ali, aged 38, has a long history of serious psychosocial disability and had been institutionalized in Daryeel Mental Health Hospital between 2012 and 2014. Two months after his release from hospital, he shot dead a man following an altercation. Mr. Ali was charged with manslaughter and detained for approximately one year before his trial. He had no legal representation during the proceedings. Despite his history of serious psychosocial disability, no psychiatric or psychological evaluation was carried out nor was his disability taken into consideration by the court. In August 2015, the Regional Court of Somaliland sentenced Mr. Ali to death. Mr. Ali's family attempted to submit his mental health records to the Appellate Court for its consideration but the Court refused to accept the evidence and upheld the death sentence. Mr. Ali is at imminent risk of execution by firing squad. | |
| 16/11/2015<br>JUA | SOM 1/2015<br>**Somalia** | **Disability; Health; Independence of judges and lawyers; Somalia; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged imminent execution of a man with a psychosocial disability who is reportedly at risk of imminent execution in the autonomous region of Somaliland, in Somalia. According to the information received, Mr. Abdullahi Ali, aged 38, has a long history of serious mental disability and had been institutionalized in Daryeel Mental Health Hospital between 2012 and 2014. Two months after his release from hospital, he shot dead a man following an altercation. Mr. Ali was charged with manslaughter and detained for approximately one year before his trial. He had no legal representation during the proceedings. Despite his history of serious psychosocial disability, no psychiatric or psychological evaluation was carried out nor was his mental disability taken into consideration by the court. In August 2015, the Regional Court of Somaliland sentenced Mr. Ali to death. Mr. Ali's family attempted to submit his mental health records to the Appellate Court for its consideration but the Court refused to accept the evidence and upheld the death sentence. Mr. Ali is at imminent risk of execution by firing squad. | |

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| 16/11/2015<br>AL | UKR 6/2015<br>**Ukraine** | **Freedom of expression;** | Allegations concerning a decree issued by the Ukrainian Government banning 41 international journalists and bloggers from reporting in the country and exercise their rights of freedom of expression and opinion. According to the information received, on 16 September 2015, the President of Ukraine signed a decree banning a group of individuals, including some journalists, from entering Ukraine for one year and considering them as threats to "national security." On 17 September 2015, six journalists were removed from the ban. To date, the decree remains in force and 35 journalists and bloggers are banned from entering the country. | |
| 17/11/2015<br>JAL | IND 14/2015<br>**India** | **Discrimination against women; Health; Torture; Violence against women;** | Alleged practice of coerced, unsafe and unethical female sterilisation in Government sponsored camps in India often resulting in injury or death, lack of adequate accountability and access to remedies for victims and their families. According to the information received, the use of substandard sterilisation procedures in India remains common practice despite well-documented risks and abuses. In November 2014, sterilisations performed in Chhattisgarh resulted in the deaths of 13 women and critical injuries to many others. Numerous similar incidents have since occurred despite government reassurances that the situation would be ameliorated. Notably, in Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Madhya Pradesh where one woman died in July 2015 as a result of substandard sterilisation. These coerced sterilization practices are not limited to Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Jharkhand but appear to illustrate a pattern and an approach that infringes upon the liberty and physical integrity of women. The incidents in Chhattisgarh were the subject of a previous communication sent on 11 March 2015, see A/HRC/30/27, case no. IND 3/2015. | |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 18/11/2015<br>JUA | KHM 5/2015<br>**Cambodia** | **Arbitrary detention; Cambodia; Environment; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest and continued detention of four human rights defenders, and a ban imposed on a human rights training session. According to the information received, on 17 August 2015, Messrs. Try Sovikea, Sun Mala, and Sim Samnang, environmental rights defenders from the Cambodian non-governmental organization Mother Nature, were arrested and later charged in connection with their involvement in a protest against foreign companies allegedly engaged in illegal sand dredging activities in the Koh Kong province. On 7 October 2015, Mr. Ven Vorn, activist for Mother Nature and community leader, was arrested following accusations of illegal logging after he and other activists constructed a small visitor centre and community meeting place for local activists involved in a campaign against the proposed construction of a hydropower dam. On 22 October 2015, local authorities in Koh Kong province banned a two-day human rights training session organized by Mother Nature for Ta Meak community members on their rights to freedom of expression after their grievances in relation to industrial projects in the province had been quashed. | |
| 18/11/2015<br>JUA | VEN 13/2015<br>**Venezuela** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Alegadas presiones sobre los fiscales en el proceso penal en contra de un líder de la oposición política y de otros acusados por parte del poder ejecutivo y de autoridades superiores del Ministerio Público. Según la información recibida, el 23 de octubre de 2015, el Fiscal Franklin Nieves ha declarado públicamente haber recibido presiones del poder ejecutivo y de sus superiores durante el desempeño de su cargo a los fines de avanzar en la acusación penal en contra del Sr. Leopoldo López Mendoza, líder del partido de oposición Voluntad Popular, y de otros acusados. Aseguró que las pruebas sobre las cuales basó su investigación eran falsas y que no había mérito para el enjuiciamiento criminal. De manera más general, el Sr. Nieves afirmó que los fiscales del Ministerio Público son constantemente amenazados con destitución y hasta arresto en caso de no cumplir con órdenes de sus superiores. El Sr. Leopoldo López Mendoza ha sido objeto de tres comunicaciones anteriores enviadas con fechas 3 de marzo de 2014, véase A/HRC/27/72, caso VEN 1/2014; 7 de agosto de 2014, véase A/HRC/28/85, caso VEN 6/2014; y 23 de febrero de 2015, véase A/HRC/29/50, caso VEN 3/2015. | |

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| 20/11/2015<br>AL | AUS 8/2015<br>**Australia** | **Summary executions;** | Alleged violations of the right to life. According to the information received, on 24 October 2015, Australian authorities allegedly announced that it might share electronic evidence with the Indian authorities concerning the case of Mr. Areeb Majeed, a 23-year-old Mumbai engineering student, who may be convicted of terrorist acts, which could lead to the imposition of the death penalty. Concerns are expressed about the risk of the imposition of the death penalty against Mr. Majeed, based on details from his email account provided by Australia. | 07/01/2016 |
| 20/11/2015<br>JAL | BDI 6/2015<br>**Burundi** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Allégations de déclarations de vol auprès d'Interpol de passeports appartenant à des défenseurs des droits de l'homme, des militants et des opposants politiques dans le but de restreindre leurs activités légitimes. Selon les informations reçues, plusieurs membres de la société civile et des membres de l'opposition politique ayant des passeports burundais, y compris M. Vital Nshimirimana, auraient été informés par les autorités de l'immigration des pays où ils se rendaient, que leurs passeports auraient été déclarés volés auprès d'Interpol. Il a été rapporté que dans certains de ces incidents impliquant d'autres Burundais opposants au Président Nkurunziza les individus auraient été en mesure de fournir des explications aux autorités de l'immigration et auraient ainsi réussi à entrer dans les pays concernés, tels que la Belgique, le Sénégal, les Etats-Unis et les Pays-Bas. Toutefois, dans le cas de M. Nshimirimana, celui-ci se serait vu refuser l'entrée dans un pays tiers, ainsi que la possibilité de s'expliquer, et aurait ainsi été renvoyé par avion à Kigali où il réside. Il n'aurait par conséquent pas pu assister à la 8e Assemblée du Mouvement Mondial pour la Démocratie à Séoul. Les allégations de violations envers M. Vital Nshimirimana ont été le sujet d'une communication précédente envoyée le 20 novembre 2015, voir ci-dessous, cas KOR 3/2015. | |

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| 20/11/2015<br>JUA | ISR 8/2015<br>**Israel** | **Adequate housing; Health; Independence of judges and lawyers; OPT;** | Alleged imminent forced eviction of a Palestinian family in East Jerusalem, Occupied Palestinian Territory. According to information received, on 11 October 2015, an Israeli District Court upheld a Magistrate's Court decision of 14 September 2014 to issue an eviction order against the Ghaith-Sub Laban family following a petition by an Israeli settler organization. The Magistrate, herself a settler, accepted the claim of the settler organization that the family, who holds protected tenancy status and continues to live in the property, had abandoned the house and lost their protected status. Since June 2015, the National Insurance Institute stopped the family's social benefits, including their medical insurance. The forced eviction is set for 30 November 2015, although a temporary injunction against the eviction was granted 18 November 2015 pending further decision by the High Court. Concerns are raised that the forced eviction would violate the right to adequate housing, rights of due process and procedural fairness and provisions under international humanitarian law. The alleged forced eviction against the Ghaith-Sub Laban family was the subject of an earlier communication sent on 30 April 2015, see A/HRC/30/27, case no. ISR 1/2015. | 18/01/2016 |
| 20/11/2015<br>JAL | PAK 11/2015<br>**Pakistan** | **Arbitrary detention; Disappearances; Terrorism;** | Alleged incompatibility of a number of provisions of the Protection of Pakistan Act with international human rights standards. According to the information received, relevant provisions in the Protection of Pakistan Act (PPA) provide security forces involved in the fight against terrorism in Pakistan, including the Army, Frontier Corps, Police and Rangers, with the authority to make arrests without warrants, order preventive detention without adequate safeguards, including in some cases secret detention, and retroactively apply the law to legitimize illegal detentions. The PPA also grants immunity to law enforcement officers who might be responsible for serious human rights violations such as arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance. | |

| Date<br>Type | Case No<br>Country | Mandate(s) | Summary of the allegation transmitted | Reply |
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| 20/11/2015<br>JAL | KOR 3/2015<br>**Republic of Korea** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Denial of entry into and deportation of a human rights defender from the Republic of Korea, which impeded his attendance at an international civil society event. According to the information received, Mr. Vital Nshimirimana, a member of several associations as well as of an ongoing political campaign, was denied entry to, and removed from, the Republic of Korea, notwithstanding possession of a valid entry visa for the country for his attendance at the 8th Assembly of the World Movement for Democracy (WMD) in Seoul. Mr. Nshimirimana was told that his passport was reported as stolen by Interpol and subsequently denied contact with the organizers of WMD or the right to appeal the denial of entry. Concern is expressed that the reported deportation of Mr. Nshimirimana may be connected to his work as a human rights defender and the legitimate exercise of his rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of opinion and expression. A communication concerning the case of Mr. Nshimirimana is also being addressed to the Government of Burundi, see above, case no. BDI 6/2015. | |
| 20/11/2015<br>JUA | ARE 4/2015<br>**United Arab Emirates** | **Health; Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary detention, incommunicado detention, including in a secret detention location, torture and ill-treatment, and lack of due process guarantees of six foreign businessmen. According to the information received, in August 2014, Mr. Salim Alaradi and Mr. Mohamed Alaradi, brothers and both Libyan-Canadian citizens, Mr. Kamal Ahmed Al Darrat and Mr. Mohamed Kamal Al Darrat, father and son, both Libyan-American citizens, Mr. Adel Rajab Beleid Nasef, Libyan citizen, and Mr. Moad Mohamed Al Hashmi, Libyan citizen, were arrested by State Security officials in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).They were subsequently kept in incommunicado detention for a prolonged period of time at a secret detention location and subjected to torture and ill-treatment. On 27 December 2014, Mr. Mohamed Alaradi was released without charges and deported. The five other men reportedly remain in detention. They have not had access to a lawyer and were not presented to a judge to date. Serious concerns are raised about the physical and psychological integrity of the six individuals, as well as their health conditions | 18/12/2015 |

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| 23/11/2015<br>JUA | BHR 7/2015<br>**Bahrain** | **Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions; Torture;** | Allegations of torture and imminent execution of two individuals in Bahrain following unfair trials and confessions extracted under torture. According to information received, Mr. Mohamad Ramadan and Mr. Husain Ali Moosa were arrested in early 2014 and subjected to torture. They were forced to confess under duress and later recanted their confessions. On 29 December 2014, a Bahraini criminal court sentenced them to death for their alleged involvement in a bomb explosion in Al Dair, which resulted in the killing of a police officer. The defense claims that the death penalty was imposed without evidence of guilt of the defendants, and in disregard of abundant evidence of ill-treatment, torture, and politically motivated charges. On 16 November 2015, Bahrain's Court of Cassation rejected the final appeal brought on behalf of the defendants and the sentences were subsequently sent to His Majesty the King for final approval. Mr. Mohamad Ramadan was the subject of a previous communication sent on 14 August 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. BHR 11/2014. | |
| 23/11/2015<br>JUA | BGD 8/2015<br>**Bangladesh** | **Arbitrary detention; Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions; Torture; Truth, justice, reparation & guarantees on non-rec;** | Allegations concerning the imminent execution of two individuals in Bangladesh following unfair trials. According to the information received, in 2013, Mr. Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mujahid and Mr. Salauddin Quader Chowdhury were sentenced to death by the International Crimes Tribunal of Bangladesh on charges of war crimes and genocide. Their trial and appeal processes reportedly failed to meet international standards on fair trial and due process. On 17 and 18 November 2015, the Appelate Division of the Supreme Court rejected the defendants' review applications, which were effectively their last appeal. The defendants may be executed at any time. Mr. Chowdhury and Mr. Mujahid were the subject of two previous communications sent on 3 October 2012, see A/HRC/22/67, case no. BGD 6/2012, and 16 November 2012, see A/HRC/22/67, case no. BGD 8/2012. Mr. Chowdhury was also the subject of one earlier communication sent on 21 February 2011, see A/HRC/18/51, case no. BGD 2/2011. | |

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| 24/11/2015<br>JAL | BGD 7/2015<br>**Bangladesh** | **Cultural Rights; Freedom of expression; Freedom of religion; Summary executions;** | Allegations concerning the killing of a Bangladeshi publisher and writer as well as of violent attacks against another publisher. According to the information received, on 31 October 2015, Mr. Faisal Arefin Dipan, a Bangladeshi publisher and writer, was murdered at his publishing house in Dhaka. He had recently published books by the secular writer and blogger Mr. Avijit Roy who was murdered in February 2015. Earlier that day Mr. Ahmedur Rashid Tutul, another Bangladeshi publisher, was the victim of a violent attack, which left him injured and hospitalized. Mr. Tutul had published four of Mr. Roy's books. It is reported that the responsibility for these attacks has been claimed by the armed group Ansar al-Islam, Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS). Concern is expressed at what appears to be a pattern of violence and intimidation against secular writers, publishers, bloggers/journalists and other intellectuals in the country, ostensibly in response to the exercise of their human right to freedom of expression and freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief. A previous related communication was sent on 30 April 2015, see A/HRC/30/27, case no. BGD 2/2015. | 25/11/2015 |
| 24/11/2015<br>JUA | BRA 10/2015<br>**Brazil** | **Business enterprises; Environment; Hazardous substances and wastes; Health; Indigenous peoples; Water and Sanitation;** | Alleged detrimental human rights impact caused by the collapse of an ore tailing waste dam in Bento Rodrigues, a sub-district of Mariana municipality in Minas Gerais state belonging to Samarco Mining S.A., a joint venture between Vale S.A. and BHP Billiton Brazil Ltda. According to the information received, 50 million cubic metres of iron ore waste washed away the entire Bento Rodrigues district of 600 inhabitants and the advancing toxic 'mud wave' continues to contaminate the soil, rivers, flora and fauna of the entire ecosystem of the region in its downstream path of 850 kilometres towards the sea. From the source of the contamination to the mouth of the sea, around 6 million people are affected by this disaster. The environmental damage to the region is said to be irreparable as the flood waters have produced a dense toxic mud that has entered the River Doce, contaminating it with very high levels of hazardous substances. All cities in the flood path have had water cuts and many residents have had to be taken to hospital for respiratory irritation and intoxication of heavy metals. 11 bodies had been found and 12 persons are still officially missing. | |

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| 24/11/2015<br>JUA | IRN 22/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Independence of judges and lawyers; Iran; Summary executions;** | Alleged imminent execution of a foreign national in the Islamic Republic of Iran. According to the information received, Mr. Kelven Ozube Agbai, a Nigerian citizen, has been held in Evin Prison since March 2013, after being arrested upon his arrival at Imam Khomeini Airport in Tehran for drug-trafficking. On 29 August 2013, Branch 24 of Tehran's Revolutionary Court convicted Mr. Agbai for possession of 1.46 kilograms of cocaine and sentenced him to death. The conviction and death sentence were confirmed by the Prosecutor General's office. Serious concerns are expressed about the apparent lack of due process and fairness of the trial. Mr. Agbai's sentence can be executed at any time. | 28/11/2015 |
| 24/11/2015<br>UA | NIC 5/2015<br>**Nicaragua** | **Indigenous peoples;** | Alegaciones sobre la creciente situación de violencia en la Región Autónoma Costa Caribe Norte, en la Mosquitia de Nicaragua. Según la información recibida, los enfrentamientos tienen su origen en la presencia de terceros en territorios del pueblo miskito y sus comunidades, debido a la falta de un proceso real y efectivo de saneamiento de dichos territorios, de acuerdo a lo que señala la ley número 28 (Estatuto de Autonomía) y la ley número 445 sobre el régimen de propiedad comunal. La tensión creciente ha desembocado en diversos incidentes violentos, que han tenido ya como resultado asesinatos, heridos y desplazados, además de daños a los bienes de los comunitarios. Como consecuencia de la violencia reinante en la zona, la información recibida señala un gran número de desplazados, ahora refugiados en las ciudades de Bilwi y Waspan y en la vecina Honduras. Debido a la situación, los miembros de las comunidades no han podido recolectar sus cosechas, por lo que podría estarse produciendo una situación de emergencia humanitaria. | |

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| 25/11/2015<br>JAL | BHR 8/2015<br>**Bahrain** | **Health; Torture;** | Allegations of torture and ill-treatment as well as poor detention conditions and denial or inadequate access to health care in Jaw Prison in Bahrain. According to the information received, on 10 March 2015, a prison protest in Jah Prison was violently supressed by security forces. During and in the aftermath of the crackdown, detainees suffered from torture and ill-treatment, including solitary confinement, and detainees with visible physical injuries were denied access to medical care. To date, no investigation into these allegations against security personnel has been initiated. Concern is expressed at the torture, ill-treatment and solitary confinement of detainees during and after the protests of 10 March 2015, at the inadequate access to health care, as well as the absence of any investigation or prosecution into these allegations. Previous communications in relation to Jah Prison were sent on 15 April 2015, see A/HRC/30/27, case no. BHR 2/2015, and on 13 May 2015, see A/HRC/30/27, case no. BHR 3/2015. | |
| 25/11/2015<br>JAL | GTM 4/2015<br>**Guatemala** | **Business enterprises; Environment; Food; Hazardous substances and wastes; Human rights defenders; Summary executions; Water and Sanitation;** | Presuntas violaciones de varios derechos humanos de al menos 12.000 personas que viven en 14 comunidades en el departamento de El Petén, Guatemala, debido a la contaminación del río La Pasión además de alegaciones de restricciones en el trabajo de defensores de derechos humanos denunciando esta situación. Según la información recibida, desde abril de 2015 se ha encontrado una gran cantidad de peces muertos flotando en el río. Se alega que la muerte de peces en el río La Pasión está relacionada con la presencia de altos niveles de un pesticida organofosforado llamado "malatión". La contaminación del río fue responsabilidad de REPSA, una empresa de aceite de palma que tiene una plantación y una planta de procesamiento ubicada cerca de los afluentes de dicho río. Se alega además que el río La Pasión es una fuente hídrica esencial para el sustento de aproximadamente 12.000 personas del municipio de Sayaxché. Igualmente, se ha constatado que miembros de las comunidades utilizan el agua del río para lavar ropa, pesca cocinar, beber, bañarse y para la agricultura de subsistencia. | |

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| 25/11/2015<br>AL | VEN 14/2015<br>**Venezuela** | **Freedom of expression;** | Alegaciones sobre presuntas restricciones a la libertad de expresión en Venezuela en relación con la labor de periodistas y medios de comunicación. Según la información recibida, se reportan varias restricciones a la libertad de expresión, tales como casos de intimidación a periodistas y medios, incluyendo procesos civiles y penales por difamación contra medios de comunicación y sus directivos por publicar información de interés público, así como restricciones al ejercicio del derecho de acceso a información pública y restricciones en la administración del papel periódico y del espectro radioeléctrico. Se alega también que el Tribunal Supremo habría declarado inejecutable una sentencia de la Corte Interamericana que protege el derecho a la libertad de expresión del canal Radio Caracas Televisión. | 23/12/2015 |
| 25/11/2015<br>JUA | VNM 2/2015<br>**Viet Nam** | **Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged violations of the rights to life and security of two lawyers. According to the information received, on 3 November 2015, Mr. Tran Thu Nam and another Vietnamese lawyer were attacked by eight unknown masked persons who beat them while they were driving back from Mrs. Do Thi Mai's home. Mrs. Mai is the mother of a 17-year-old child who died in prison on 10 October 2015 following alleged torture. Grave concern is expressed about the security of Mr. Nam and his colleague. A previous communication concerning Mrs. Do Thi Mai and her son was sent on 30 October 2015, see above, case no. VNM 1/2015. | |
| 26/11/2015<br>JAL | CHN 11/2015<br>**China (People's Republic of)** | **Disappearances; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Freedom of religion; Minority issues; Torture;** | Alleged demolition of 37 Christian Catholic and Protestant churches, removal of over 500 churches in Zhejiang Province and enforced disappearance of a Pastor for protesting against the planned demolition of a church. According to the information received, since October 2013, the Zheijang provincial Government systematically removed and destroyed Christian symbols and places of worship in an attempt to reduce the visibility of the Christian religion. Pastor Huang Yizi was arrested and sentenced to one year imprisonment for publicly opposing the demolition of a church in Wenzhou, Zheijang´s biggest city. It is reported that he was repeatedly tortured while in custody. He was released on 1 August 2015 after serving his sentence, but arrested again on 12 September 2015. Authorities acknowledged the arrest but have kept him incommunicado and concealed his fate and whereabouts. | 22/01/2016 |

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| 27/11/2015<br>JUA | BHR 9/2015<br>**Bahrain** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Freedom of religion; Human rights defenders;** | Alleged arbitrary detention and prosecution of the Secretary General of the main opposition political party in Bahrain, Al-Wefaq National Islamic Society, and a well-known religious figure in the country. According to the information received, on 28 December 2014, Sheikh Ali al Salman was arrested two days after his re-election as Secretary General of Al-Wefaq. On 16 June 2015, he was sentenced to four years imprisonment on charges including inciting change of regime by non-peaceful means and insulting the Ministry of Interior. After several appeal hearings were postponed, an appeal hearing is scheduled for 14 December 2015. Grave concern is expressed at allegations that Sheikh Al Salman is being detained for the expression of his political views and opinions, as political opposition leader and a Shi'a religious figure. Sheikh Al Salman was the subject of a previous communication sent on 16 January 2015, see A/HRC/29/50, case no. BHR 1/2015. | 12/12/2015 |
| 27/11/2015<br>AL | HND 4/2015<br>**Honduras** | **Freedom of expression;** | Alegaciones relativas a la inhabilitación profesional de un periodista, en aplicación de una sentencia por difamación e injuria. Según la información recibida, el 29 de octubre de 2015 el periodista Julio Ernesto Alvarado habría sido notificado de la ejecución de una sentencia penal por difamación e injuria en la cual se le inhabilitaría para el ejercicio de su profesión durante 16 meses. El proceso judicial habría sido iniciado por la Decana de la Universidad Nacional en relación con declaraciones sobre los antecedentes y cualificaciones de la demandante, transmitidas en el programa Mi Nación, conducido por el Sr. Alvarado, a través del canal Globo TV. La sentencia y la inhabilitación del periodista, no se ajustarían a las normas y estándares internacionales en materia de derechos humanos, en particular el derecho a la libertad de expresión, y a los principios de necesidad y proporcionalidad. Se expresa particular preocupación por el desacato a las medidas cautelares decretadas por la Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos (N° 196-14), donde se le solicitó preventivamente al Estado suspender la ejecución de la pena contra el periodista Julio Ernesto Alvarado. El Relator Especial insta a la suspensión de la medida de inhabilitación del periodista. El Sr. Julio Ernesto Alvarado ha sido objeto de una comunicación previa con fecha 12 de septiembre de 2014, véase A/HRC/29/50, caso HND 7/2014. | |

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| 27/11/2015<br>JUA | IRQ 5/2015<br>**Iraq** | **Summary executions;**<br>**Terrorism;**<br>**Torture;** | Alleged torture, and imminent execution of two juvenile offenders. According to the information received, Mr. Saleh Moussa Ahmed al-Baidany (Yemeni national) and Mr. Hamaad Abdel-Rahman Hamaad (Saudi national), two juvenile offenders, are reportedly at risk of imminent execution in Iraq. It is also reported that several people may have been secretly executed by the authorities in March 2015. Concerns are raised about the imminent execution of Messrs. Al-Baidany, and Hamaad. | 11/01/2016 |
| 30/11/2015<br>JUA | COD 4/2015<br>**Democratic Republic of the Congo** | **Arbitrary detention;**<br>**Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;**<br>**Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Allégations de détention arbitraire de deux défenseurs des droits de l'homme. Selon les informations reçues, le 21 janvier 2015, M. Christopher Ngoyi Mutamba, défenseur des droits de l'homme et coordinateur d'un réseau d'organisations de la société civile, aurait été arrêté à Kinshasa par la police militaire congolaise. M. Ngoyi aurait été détenu incommunicado, puis présenté devant le tribunal de paix de Kinshasa Matete, accusé d'avoir publié de fausses informations, d'avoir incité au non-respect de la loi, à la rébellion, et à la haine raciale, de destruction de propriété et de vol. Le 15 mars 2015, M. Yves Makwambala, concepteur du site web de la plateforme Filimbi, aurait été arrêté par des agents de l'Agence nationale de renseignement avec une trentaine de jeunes activistes et défenseurs des droits de l'homme lors d'une conférence de presse. Le 5 mai 2015, il aurait été transféré à la prison de Makala à Kinshasa, accusé, entre autres, d'attentat contre la vie du chef de l'Etat. Dans le cadre de ces deux affaires, la défense aurait fait appel sur des questions de procédure. Les deux procès auraient été suspendus dans l'attente de la décision des juridictions saisies. | |

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| 30/11/2015<br>JUA | LSO 1/2015<br>**Lesotho** | **Arbitrary detention; Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest, detention, torture and ill-treatment, and unfair trial of at least 23 members of the Lesotho Defence Force, killing of the former Commander of the Lesotho Defense Force, as well as on-going threats and attacks against the independence of the judiciary and lawyers. According to the information received, in May and June 2015, more than 50 members of the Lesotho Defence Force (LDF) were arrested on allegations of plotting a mutiny, some were later released but 23 remained in detention. During the various habeas corpus proceedings that followed, the detainees described the severe torture and ill-treatment to which they had allegedly been subjected. During the same proceedings, heavily-armed LDF guards, largely present around and inside the court, and LDF legal representatives threatened the detainees' lawyers and their families and intimidated members of the judiciary. On 25 June 2015, the former Commander of the LDF, Brigadier Mahao, was shot and killed by the LDF. In early July 2015, the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) established a commission of inquiry to examine, inter alia, the killing of Brigadier Mahao and the allegations regarding the mutiny plot. It concluded its work in November, but SADC has yet to pronounce its views on the report. On 5 October 2015, the High Court declared the 23 soldiers' continued detention unlawful and ordered their release, yet 21 soldiers remain in detention to date, and it is alleged that they have been placed in solitary confinement since mid-October 2015. A court martial that was constituted in September is expected to resume its work on 2 December 2015. | |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
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| 30/11/2015<br>JUA | MEX 13/2015<br>**México** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Alegaciones de detención arbitraria y malos tratos a cuatro defensores de los derechos humanos. Según las informaciones recibidas, el 28 y 29 de octubre de 2015, los Sres. Juan Carlos Orozco Matus, Othón Nazareiga Segura, Efraín Picaso Pérez y Roberto Abel Jiménez García, fueron detenidos en diferentes lugares en el Estado de Oaxaca, en relación con manifestaciones pacíficas en contra de la reforma educativa, que tuvieron lugar entre julio de 2014 y junio de 2015. Los defensores fueron llevados a la Ciudad de México para ser presentados ante la Procuraduría General de la República y posteriormente fueron trasladados a la prisión de Altiplano en  Almoloya de Huárez, Estado de México, donde siguen privados de libertad. Los cuatro defensores se enfrentan a acusaciones de robo agravado, disturbios, daños a la propiedad y crímenes en contra de la riqueza nacional. Se alega que todos ellos habrían sido objetos de golpes y malos tratos al momento de su arresto. | |
| 30/11/2015<br>JUA | SAU 10/2015<br>**Saudi Arabia** | **Cultural Rights; Freedom of expression; Freedom of religion; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions; Torture;** | Allegations concerning the imposition of the death sentence following an unfair trial against a poet of Palestinian origin in Saudi Arabia. According to the information received, on 25 May 2014, Mr. Ashraf Fayadh was sentenced to four years imprisonment and 800 lashes for allegedly having committed apostasy. The prosecution appealed the verdict and, on 17 November 2015, the General Court of Abha sentenced Mr. Fayadh to death under the same charge. Mr. Fayadh, who had no legal representation during the judicial proceedings, was given 30 days to appeal the sentence. He remains in detention. | |

## B. Replies received between 1 August 2015 and 31 January 2016 relating to communications sent before 1 June 2015

11. The table below lists, in chronological order, communications dating before 1 June 2015 to which a reply or an additional reply has been received in the period between 1 August 2015 and 31 January 2016. Copies of the full text of the communications sent and the reply received during the reporting period can be accessed from the electronic version of this report available on the OHCHR website. Some names of individuals or other information have been rendered anonymous or otherwise unidentifiable. . Government replies to cases DNK 1/2013, IRN 12/2013, IRN 25/2013, ECU 3/2014, IRN 20/2014, IRN 23/2014, IRN 25/2014, NLD 1/2014, RWA 2/2014, SAU 15/2014, ECU 1/2015, IRN 3/2015, KGZ 1/2015, USA 1/2015, USA 2/2015, USA 4/2015 and USA 11/2015 were omitted in the previous report A/HRC/30/27 due to technical problems and are now included

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 28/12/2012<br>AL | MEX 36/2012<br>**México** | **Indigenous peoples;** | Alegaciones de posibles impactos negativos sobre los derechos humanos del pueblo indígena ikojts (o huave) a raíz de la construcción de un parque eólico en San Dionisio del Mar, Oaxaca. Según la información recibida, en años recientes, el Gobierno federal mexicano y el gobierno estatal de Oaxaca han promovido un proyecto eólico que afectaría las tierras tradicionales de la comunidad de San Dionisio del Mar y de las demás comunidades que conforman el pueblo ikojts, las cuales son formalmente reconocidas como tierras comunales bajo el régimen agrario nacional. Se alega que el proyecto eólico en San Dionisio del Mar no fue debidamente autorizado por la asamblea comunitaria, la cual es la principal entidad representativa compuesta por miembros de la comunidad. La principal preocupación expresada por miembros del pueblo ikojts en relación con el proyecto eólico gira en torno a los posibles impactos ambientales que generaría la construcción del proyecto eólico sobre el mar, las lagunas, las áreas costeras y los manglares de los que dependen para sus actividades tradicionales de pesca a lo largo del Golfo de Tehuantepec y el complejo lagunar Huave. | 29/01/2013<br>13/10/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 17/07/2013<br>UA | DNK 1/2013<br>**Denmark** | **Torture;** | Alleged imminent risk of deportation of Mr X, an asylum seeker, who would be at risk of being tortured and killed, if forcibly returned from Denmark to Sri Lanka. According to the information received, Mr X's asylum claim and subsequent appeal were rejected by the Danish Refugee Appeals Board on 13 May 2013. Allegedly, Mr X was ordered to leave Denmark or he would be forcibly deported from Denmark to Sri Lanka on 17 July 2013. At the moment of writing, Mr X could be deported at any moment. Reportedly, Mr X is at risk of being killed or tortured by the supporters of Eelam People's Democratic Party (EPDP) or the Sri Lankan military forces, due to his alleged past relation with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE). | 16/06/2015 |
| 31/07/2013<br>JUA | IRN 12/2013<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Arbitrary detention; Independence of judges and lawyers; Iran; Minority issues; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged imminent risk of executions after proceedings that did not comply with international standards on fair trial and due process guarantees, as well as torture while in detention. According to the information received, Messrs Ghazi Abbasi, Abdul-Reza Amir-Khanafereh, Abdul-Amir Mojaddami, and Jasim Moghaddam Payam, members of the Ahwazi Arab minority, are at risk of imminent execution. On 15 August 2012, the Revolutionary Court of Ahwaz reportedly sentenced them to death on charges of moharebeh and ifsad fil-arz. In addition, Messrs Shahab Abbasi, Sami Jadmavinejad, and Hadi Albokhanfarnejad, also Ahwazi Arabs, were sentenced to three years in prison. All the accused were reportedly held in incommunicado pre-trial detention for months, subjected to torture and ill-treatment for the purpose of extracting confessions, and denied full access to a defence lawyer. Their trial took place behind closed doors, and some members of their families were allegedly harassed and detained. | 15/06/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 13/09/2013<br>JUA | COL 10/2013<br>**Colombia** | **Disappearances; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Summary executions;** | Presunto asesinato de un abogado y supuestos actos de intimidación, estigmatización y amenazas de muerte contra abogados en un contexto de ataques contra profesionales del derecho trabajando en casos de violaciones de derechos humanos, incluidas desapariciones forzadas e involuntarias. Según la información recibida, el Sr. Juan Carlos Canizales Ocampo habría sido asesinado en Buga, Valle del Cauca, el 10 de agosto de 2013 en conexión con su trabajo.  Además, el 4 de agosto de 2013, otros abogados habrían sufrido intimidaciones y habían sido objeto de actos de estigmatización y amenazas de muerte por parte del grupo armado autodenominado "Los Rastrojos".  El 17 de agosto de 2013, el local del Sr. Sneither Cifuentes habría sido violentamente allanado, un familiar suyo atacado y unos documentos confidenciales sustraídos (Véanse A/HRC/21/49; A/HRC/18/51). | 14/11/2013<br>24/12/2013<br>12/08/2015 |
| 07/11/2013<br>JAL | CAN 4/2013<br>**Canada** | **Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Indigenous peoples;** | Allegations concerning discrimination in funding and retaliation acts against Ms Cindy Blackstock, Executive Director of the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada. According to the information received, in 2007, the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada filed a complaint against the Government of Canada before the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal alleging discrimination in the funding provided to First Nations for child welfare. Reportedly, after the case was filed in 2007, Ms Blackstock and the First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada experienced what they perceived as several forms of retaliation by the Government of Canada. This allegedly included the monitoring of Ms Blackstock's personal Facebook page, her professional meetings and presentations, and her Indian Status registry. | 10/01/2014<br>10/01/2014<br>09/10/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 05/12/2013<br>JAL | AGO 5/2013<br>**Angola** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Summary executions; Torture;** | Allegations of excessive use of force to disperse a peaceful demonstration, as well as the alleged killing of a human rights defender and several other protestors. According to the information received, on 22 November 2013, an estimated 213 individuals were detained by the National Police for distributing pamphlets around Luanda alleging that security forces had killed Mr. Silva Alves Kamulingue and Mr. Isaias Sebastião Cassule while in custody. Several members of the political party CASE-CE were detained at the 9th Police Unit in Sambizanga. Whilst many of the detainees were released the following afternoon, approximately 60 individuals remain in detention, including Messrs' Xavier Jaime, Chiconda Alexandre and Américo Chivukuvuku. On the night of 22 November 2013, Mr. Manuel "Ganga" de Carvalho was reportedly shot dead by a soldier, while distributing the same pamphlets in the neighbourhood of Coqueiros. On 23 November 2013, police officers allegedly opened fire on demonstrators and shot dead two protestors. Furthermore, the police allegedly arrested, mistreated and threatened Mr. Zola Bambi, a lawyer working for the legal aid organization Maos Livres. Two earlier related communications were sent on 26 April 2013, see A/HRC/24/21, case no. AGO 2/2013, and on 10 June 2013, see A/HRC/25/74, case no. AGO 3/2013. | 08/01/2014<br>22/12/2015 |
| 30/12/2013<br>JAL | IRN 25/2013<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Independence of judges and lawyers; Iran; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged execution in secret of four ethnic Arab men from Ahvaz, who were facing the death penalty. According to the information received, Mr. Ghazi Abasi, Mr. Abdolreza Amir Khanafereh, Mr. Abdolamir Mojadami and Mr. Jasem Moghadam Panah, were sentenced to death on charges of Mahrebeh (enmity against God) and Ifsad fil-arz (corruption on earth), in relation to alleged shootings that resulted in the deaths of a police officer and a soldier. The four men denied any involvement in the shootings and stated that their confessions were obtained under severe torture and other ill-treatment. An appeal was reportedly still outstanding when the execution was carried out. On 2 December 2013, officials from the Ministry of Intelligence informed the families of the four men about their execution. Neither the family nor the lawyer of the four men had received notification prior to the execution. | 15/06/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25/02/2014<br>JUA | COL 3/2014<br>**Colombia** | **Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Summary executions;** | Presunto patrón de ataques y amenazas de muerte perpetrados por actores no-estatales contra defensores de derechos humanos en Colombia. Según las informaciones recibidas, las violaciones parecen de estar vinculadas con la lucha contra la impunidad y la defensa de los derechos de las víctimas del conflicto interno armado, en especial aquellas afectadas por ejecuciones extrajudiciales. Los asuntos destacados en esta comunicación también han sido recogidos en otras comunicaciones; una primera envidada el 1 de Mayo de 2014, vea A/HRC/24/21, caso COL 5/2013; una segunda enviada el 17 de diciembre de 2012, ver arriba, caso COL 13/2012; una tercera enviada el 30 de junio de 2008, ver A/HRC/10/12/Add.1, para 764-767 (COL 17/2008); y una cuarta enviada el 25de junio de 2007, ver A/HRC/7/28/Add.1, para. 504-507 (COL 13/2007). | 17/02/2015<br>19/10/2015<br>04/01/2016 |
| 17/04/2014<br>JAL | ARG 1/2014<br>**Argentina** | **Food; Water and Sanitation;** | Alegaciones sobre la falta de acceso a agua potable en las comunidades del oeste de la Pampa. Según la información recibida, se produce la desecación del río Atuel en el Estado de la Pampa con la creación de la represa Nihuil (1947) en el Estado de Mendoza. Desde entonces se llevaron a cabo distintas iniciativas para asegurar que el río Atuel satisfaga las demandas de riego de tierras cultivadas. Asimismo las fuentes informaron del incumplimiento por parte del Estado de Mendoza del acuerdo firmado entre ambos estados que permite a las comunidades de la Pampa disponer de agua potable para sus usos personales y domésticos, y para que puedan desarrollar actividades productivas. | 22/10/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 11/08/2014<br>JAL | COL 6/2014<br>**Colombia** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;**<br>**Summary executions;** | Presuntos asesinatos, ataques y actos de intimidación contra defensores de derechos laborales en Colombia. Según la información recibida, los Sres. Brayan Yatacue Secue, José Yiner Esterilla, José Antonio Acanamejoy y X, integrantes jóvenes de una filial de la Federación Nacional Sindical Agropecuaria (FENSUAGRO-CUT), habrían sido asesinados el 17 de mayo de 2014. El Sr. Luis Plaza Vélez, Secretario General de la Subdirectiva Bolívar de la Central Unitaria de Trabajadores (CUT), habría sido víctima de un intento de asesinato el 16 de mayo de 2014. La sede de SINTRAEMCALI y el vehículo del Sr. José Ernesto Reyes, Vicepresidente de SINTRAEMCALI, fueron objeto de dos ataques incendiarios. La Sra. Berenice Celeyta, directora de la Asociación para la Investigación y la Acción Social (Nomadesc), habría sufrido vigilancia y actos de intimidación. Se expresa grave preocupación por la integridad física y psicológica de los sindicalistas y por las alegaciones de que los riesgos que enfrentan pudieran estar relacionados con sus actividades de promoción y protección de los derechos humanos y las libertades fundamentales. La Sra. Celeyta fue objeto de una comunicación enviada por los procedimientos especiales el 25 de febrero de 2014, véase A/HRC/26/21, caso no. COL 3/2014. | 08/10/2014<br>30/04/2015<br>14/04/2015<br>20/05/2015<br>19/10/2015 |
| 03/10/2014<br>UA | IRN 20/2014<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Arbitrary detention;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest, detention and sentencing to 11 years imprisonment of an Iranian-British dual national following a trial that did not comply with international standards. According to the information received, a 75-year-old Iranian-British dual national was arrested on 5 May 2011 by five individuals who identified themselves as "Entezami" officials and detained without charges during 45 days in Evin Prison, Tehran. The five individuals did not show an arrest warrant or provide a reason for the arrest. Two years later, in 2013, the person in question was tried by the Revolutionary Court of Tehran and sentenced to 11 years imprisonment, including eight years for espionage and three years for possessing alcohol at home. The individual was detained several months without charge or trial, with only irregular access to legal counsel and limited contact with family members. Even after having been charged, the individual was not able to grasp the reason for such a detention and trial, and no evidence was reportedly brought against the individual. . Grave concern has been expressed about the individual's physical and mental integrity. | 08/06/2015 |

| Date<br>Type | Case No<br>Country | Mandate(s) | Summary of the allegation transmitted | Reply |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 14/10/2014<br>JUA | IRN 23/2014<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Iran; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged risk of execution of a juvenile offender in the Islamic Republic of Iran. According to the information received, on 17 July 2011, Mr. Saman Naseem, at that time a juvenile, and member of Party for Free Life of Kurdistan (PJAK), was arrested after an armed confrontation between the Revolutionary Guards and PJAK in Sardasht, West Azerbaijan Province, which allegedly led to the death of one Revolutionary Guard and injury of three others. In August 2012, the Supreme Court overturned the death sentence handed down by the Revolutionary Court in Mahabad in January 2012, following a trial that fell short of international standards. In April 2013, a criminal court in Mahabad sentenced Mr. Naseem to death for "enmity against God" (Moharebeh) and "corruption on earth" (Ifsad fil-arz). The death sentence was upheld by the Supreme Court in December 2013. Mr. Naseem is reportedly currently detained in Oroumieh Central Prison, awaiting execution. | 16/06/2015 |
| 21/10/2014<br>JUA | IRN 25/2014<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Iran;** | Alleged arrest and detention of a human rights activist, including as a form of reprisal for cooperating with the United Nations, its mechanisms and representatives in the field of human rights. According to the information received, on 2 June 2014, Mr. Saeed Shirzad, a human rights activist and member of the Society for Defending Street and Working Children, was arrested at his workplace in Tabriz, East Azerbaijan Province, and held overnight at the Ministry of Intelligence detention facility, before being transferred to Evin Prison, Tehran. He was reportedly held in solitary confinement for two months in Ward 209 without access to a lawyer. Although no indictment has been issued against Mr. Shirzad, he was allegedly verbally informed of his charges on 18 August 2014, which included association and collusion against national security, propaganda against the system and cooperation with the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Mr Shirzad was the subject of a previous communication sent on 15 July 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. IRN 12/2014. | 11/06/2015 |
| 14/11/2014<br>AL | BDI 3/2014<br>**Burundi** | **Discrimination against women ;** | Lettre concernant des normes discriminatoires envers les femmes dans la loi sur la nationalité. Selon les informations reçues, le Code de la nationalité de 2000 ne permet pas aux mères burundaises de transmettre leur nationalité à leurs enfants sauf quand ils sont nés hors mariage d'un père inconnu ou s'ils ont été reniés par leurs pères (art.4). | 07/08/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 02/12/2014<br>JUA | ECU 3/2014<br>**Ecuador** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Alegaciones de secuestro, amenazas y una campaña de desprestigio contra una defensora de derechos LGBTI. Según las informaciones recibidas, en febrero de 2012, la Sra. Diane Marie Rodríguez Zambrano, una persona transexual y la presidenta de la Asociación Silueta X, que trabaja sobre derechos LGBTI, fue secuestrada en Guayaquil durante cuatro horas. Dos meses después, habría recibido una amenaza telefónica. Desde agosto de 2014, se ha producido una campaña de desprestigio en su contra en las redes sociales. En agosto y septiembre de 2014, cuatro individuos desconocidos visitaron las oficinas de la organización en Quito y Guayaquil e indicaron que tenían que "arreglar cuentas" con ella. La segunda vez, uno de ellos indicó que iba armado. El 20 de octubre de 2014, ella recibió un correo informándole que estaba bajo vigilancia y amenazándola con mutilación. Se expresa grave preocupación por las alegaciones de secuestro, amenazas y por la campaña de desprestigio. | 02/07/2015 |
| 08/12/2014<br>JUA | RWA 2/2014<br>**Rwanda** | **Arbitrary detention; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of several ousted members of a Rwandan non-governmental organization. According to the information received, on 21 November 2014, the police arrested Mr. Evariste Nsabayezu and Mr. Daniel Uwimana, both ousted members of the Rwanda League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights (LIPRODHOR), and charged them with forgery and usage of forged documents. Both men were to attend the general assembly of LIPRODHOR convened by LIPRODHOR's ousted board for 23 November 2014. The same week, the police arrested another ousted member of LIPRODHOR, Mr. André Bigirimana. He reportedly remains detained at Kicukiro Police station. The mayor of Nyarugenge, where the general assembly was to take place, prohibited the meeting on 22 November 2014. While Mr. Nsabayezu was released on 24 November 2014, Mr. Uwimana's case was transferred to the district tribunal of Nyarugenge and he remains detained at Nyamirambo police station. Following these events, arrest warrants were also issued against other ousted members of LIPRODHOR, namely Mr. Jean Faustin Kalibanyi, Mr. Innocent Maniriho and Mr. Jean Bosco Tuganumuremyi. LIPRODHOR was the subject of an earlier communication sent on 15 July 2004, see E/CN.4/2005/101/Add.1, para. 467-468. | 23/07/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12/12/2014<br>JUA | NLD 1/2014<br>**Netherlands** | **Adequate housing; Extreme poverty; Migrants;** | Allegations concerning the failure of the Government of the Netherlands to provide emergency assistance to homeless irregular migrants. According to the information received, the Government denies emergency assistance, such as food, clothing and shelter, to adult homeless irregular migrants. Recently, in two separate decisions, the European Committee of Social Rights found that the Netherlands was violating the European Social Charter by failing to provide adequate access to emergency assistance to irregular migrants. Although over 60 municipalities have requested the Government to provide them with temporary budget support to offer such assistance to irregular migrants and to temporarily halt their eviction from centres for asylum-seekers as a way of preventing more individuals from becoming homeless, the Government has refused to honour their requests. Concern is expressed that the Government reportedly still maintains that it is not under any obligation to provide emergency assistance for homeless migrants in an irregular situation, which contradicts international human rights law. | 04/02/2015<br>09/07/2015 |
| 31/12/2014<br>JUA | SAU 15/2014<br>**Saudi Arabia** | **Arbitrary detention; Discrimination against women; Freedom of expression; Human rights defenders;** | Alleged arrest and detention of two Saudi female human rights activists, in apparent defiance of a ban on women driving in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. According to the information received, Ms. Loujain al-Hathloul and Ms. Maysaa al-Amoudi were arrested and detained for driving their cars into Saudi Arabia on 30 November 2014 and 1 December 2014 respectively. It is alleged that both women were ordered by the authorities to drive their cars onto Saudi territory in the understanding that they would have to make a U-turn and return to the United Arab Emirates. However, as soon as they crossed the border, they found the authorities waiting to arrest them. The women are reportedly being detained in Saudi Arabia and on 25 December 2014, they were referred to a Saudi court established to try terrorism cases, reportedly for comments they made on social media. It is alleged that both women were arrested as part of attempts by the authorities to hamper the legitimate work of human rights defenders and suppress their right to freedom of opinion and expression. Concerns are raised regarding the persistence of policies which discriminate against Saudi women and restrict their equal enjoyment of their rights. | 29/07/2015 |

| Date<br>Type | Case No<br>Country | Mandate(s) | Summary of the allegation transmitted | Reply |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 07/01/2015<br>JAL | ESP 6/2014<br>**Spain** | **Disappearances; Truth, justice, reparation & guarantees on non-rec;** | Alegaciones relativas al presunto inminente cierre del laboratorio de la Asociación para la Recuperación de la Memoria Histórica (ARMH) en el Campus Ponferrada de la Universidad de León. Según las informaciones recibidas, el laboratorio de la ARMH, cedido por la Universidad de León, donde se llevan a cabo exhumaciones de restos de víctimas encontradas en fosas de la Guerra Civil y la represión franquista, cesaría sus actividades en debido a la falta de financiación. | 04/08/2015 |
| 15/01/2015<br>JAL | USA 1/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Health; Torture;** | Allegations concerning acts of torture and the role of health professionals in the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) interrogation program, and the subsequent lack of investigations into these allegations. According to the information received, health professionals from the CIA Office of Medical Services designed, directed and profited financially from the CIA interrogation program; intentionally inflicted harm on detainees; enabled United States Department of Justice lawyers to treat the interrogation practices as safe, legal and effective; engaged in potential human subjects research to provide legal cover for torture; monitored detainee torture and calibrated levels of pain; evaluated and treated detainees for purposes of torture; conditioned medical care on cooperation with interrogators; and failed to document physical and/or psychological evidence of torture. | 18/06/2015 |
| 23/01/2015<br>UA | USA 2/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Summary executions;** | Alleged imposition of the death penalty on an individual with reported psychosocial disabilities. According to the information received, Mr. Warren Hill was sentenced to death in August 1991 for the murder of a prison inmate in August 1990. According to the new information received, on 20 January 2015, the Supreme Court of Georgia in a 5-2 ruling denied Mr. Hill's application for probable cause to appeal the denial of habeas corpus. His execution is scheduled to take place on 27 January 2015. A press release was previously issued on 17 July 2012 urging the authorities to stop Mr. Hill's execution. He was also the subject two previous communications sent on 19 July 2013, A/HRC/25/74, case no. USA 9/2013 and 13 July 2012, see A/HRC/22/67, case no. USA 10/2012. | 19/06/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 26/01/2015<br>JUA | ECU 1/2015<br>**Ecuador** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Human rights defenders; Indigenous peoples;** | Alegaciones sobre el desalojo repentino e injustificado de la Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador (CONAIE) de un inmueble en comodato con el Ministerio de Asuntos Económicos y Sociales (MIES). Según información recibida, el 11 de diciembre de 2014, el Gobierno de Ecuador, mediante el MIES, habría notificado a la CONAIE la terminación unilateral del contrato de comodato presuntamente válido por 30 años (1984 – 2021). El motivo habría sido la necesidad urgente de utilizar el edificio para un programa de desintoxicación. La CONAIE habría recibido un plazo de 15 días hábiles (hasta el 6 de enero de 2015) para desalojar los locales que, además, habría remodelado recientemente, agregando dos nuevas plantas. El edificio sería símbolo importante de las demandas indígenas y sociales de tres décadas en el país. El presunto entorno crecientemente restrictivo e intimidatorio para las organizaciones de la sociedad civil en Ecuador, en particular aquellas en pro de los derechos indígenas, ha sido objeto de cinco comunicaciones previas enviadas el: 30 de noviembre de 2011, referencia A/HRC/19/44, caso ECU 3/2011; 16 de septiembre de 2013, referencia A/HRC/25/74, caso ECU 1/2013; 4 de octubre de 2013, referencia A/HRC/25/74, caso ECU 2/2013, 31 de diciembre de 2013, referencia A/HRC/26/21, caso ECU 4/2013 y el 5 de septiembre de 2014, caso ECU 2/2014. Los Procedimientos Especiales lamentan no haber recibido aún ninguna respuesta a estas comunicaciones. | 02/07/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 28/01/2015<br>JAL | USA 3/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Health;**<br>**Torture;** | Alleged interference with the right to health of prisoners within the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) prison facilities, which could amount to torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. According to the information received, temperatures in these facilities routinely rise to the level identified by the United States National Weather Service as "extremely dangerous" (above 108°F) for risk of heat-related illnesses. The heat indices collected indicate that prisoners housed in these facilities are exposed to extreme temperatures, well above this threshold, ranging from 112°F to 150°F, for several hours during the day, resulting in illness and, in some cases, death. It is further reported that the TDCJ does not perform intake screenings to determine the vulnerability of prisoners and does not warn vulnerable prisoners of their susceptibility to heat, and that despite various reports from prisoners and staff concerning the heat conditions in the facilities and associated health risks, the TDCJ has not, to date, taken the necessary measures to address the problem and mitigate the impact. | 17/06/2015<br>02/12/2015 |
| 11/02/2015<br>JAL | USA 4/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Discrimination against women;**<br>**Health;**<br>**Violence against women;** | Allegations of retrogression in the enjoyment of the right to health, including reproductive health, and physical integrity by women and girls in Texas, United States of America. According to the information received, further to the implementation of the Texas House Bill 2 (HB2) relating to the regulation of abortion procedures, providers and facilities, of the 41 abortion clinics which were open in Texas in May 2013, only 17 remain open today. Most of these clinics are located in Texas' five largest cities, which implies that access to safe abortion has been most severely curtailed for poor, rural, and immigrant women unable to travel to urban centres. Serious concern is expressed that HB2 and its implementation appears to gravely undermine women and girls' enjoyment of their rights to health, including reproductive health, and physical integrity, in contravention of international human rights law and standards. | 23/06/2015<br>02/07/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12/02/2015<br>JUA | IRN 3/2015<br>**Iran (Islamic Republic of)** | **Iran; Summary executions; Torture;** | Alleged imminent risk of execution of a juvenile offender in the Islamic Republic of Iran. According to the information received, Mr. Saman Naseem was sentenced to death in April 2013 by a criminal Court in Mahabad for Moharebeh ("enmity against God") and Ifsad fil-Arz ("corruption on earth") in relation to his alleged involvement in an armed confrontation between Revolutionary Guards and the Party for Free Life of Kurdistan (PJAK) in Sardasht in 2011. The Supreme Court reportedly upheld the sentence in December 2013. The Oroumieh Central Prison, where Mr. Naseem is currently being held, has reportedly received clearance from the Judiciary's implementation division to carry out his execution on 19 February 2015. Mr. Naseem's lawyer has allegedly been prevented from reviewing the case file for information about the impending execution and pursuing the case. Grave concern is expressed at the imminent execution of Mr. Naseem, who at the time of the alleged crime is believed to have been less than 18 years old, which would render his execution a violation of international human rights law. Mr. Naseem was the subject of a previous communication sent on 14 October 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. IRN 23/2014. | 16/06/2015 |
| 12/02/2015<br>JAL | KOR 1/2015<br>**Republic of Korea** | **Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers;** | Alleged disciplinary proceedings against two human rights lawyers for discharging their professional functions. According to the information received, from 2012 to 2014, Mr. Kyeong-wook Jang acted as the legal representative of a North Korean defector and Ms. In-sook Kim as the legal representative of a person accused of assault against the police during a protest. Both legal representatives work for MINBYUN – Lawyers for a Democratic Society (MINBYUN), a non-governmental organization that aims to contribute to the protection of human rights and development of democracy in the Republic of Korea through the provision of pro bono legal representation, in particular to human rights defenders, research and investigation. Reportedly, as a result of their roles as legal representatives in the above-mentioned cases, disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against them by the Chief Prosecutor of the Seoul Central District Prosecutor's Office. | 09/09/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 25/02/2015<br>JUA | KGZ 1/2015<br>**Kyrgyz Republic** | **Arbitrary detention;**<br>**Independence of judges and lawyers;**<br>**Torture;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest and detention of four individuals, as well as torture and ill-treatment of three of these individuals by police officers in relation to criminal investigations. According to the information received, on 11 August 2014, Mr. Evgenii Kushtavkin, his spouse, Ms. Tatiana Timchuk, and her brothers, Mr. Alexander Shushlebin and Mr. Evgenii Shushlebin, were arrested at their permanent residence in Bishkek by police officers and taken to the Main Internal Affairs Directorate of Bishkek City. No arrest warrants were presented. During their detention, Mr. Kushtavkin, Ms. Timchuk and Mr. Alexander Shushlebin were subjected to torture and ill-treatment. On 12 August 2014, after 20 hours of detention, Ms. Timchuk and Mr. Evgenii Shushlebin were released without any charges being brought against them. At the time of the communication Mr. Evgenii Kushtavkin remained in detention. Concern is expressed regarding the alleged arbitrary arrest, trial and continued detention of Mr. Evgenii Kushtavkin. Further concern is expressed about the physical and mental integrity of Mr. Evgenii Kushtavkin, Ms. Tatiana Timchuk and Mr. Alexander Shushlebin, who were allegedly subjected to torture and ill treatment. | 08/07/2015 |
| 25/02/2015<br>JAL | ESP 2/2015<br>**Spain** | **Freedom of religion;**<br>**Migrants;**<br>**Minority issues;**<br>**Racism;** | Alegaciones relativas a las "Recomendaciones en intervenciones con personas de origen árabe" emitidas por la Jefatura Provincial de Andalucía Occidental de la Policía Nacional. Según la información recibida, dicha Jefatura de Policía habría emitido recomendaciones a sus agentes sobre el uso de perfil étnico y racial, fomentando una vigilancia desproporcionada e injustificada hacia un sector de la población. Aunque estas recomendaciones hayan sido posteriormente anuladas, se expresa preocupación por que dichas medidas pudieran fomentar actitudes racistas e islamófobas por parte de agentes públicos y de la población en general. | 04/08/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 24/03/2015<br>JAL | USA 5/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Summary executions;**<br>**Terrorism;**<br>**Torture;** | Alleged unlawful killings resulting from an air strike involving the use of an armed drone belonging to the authorities of the United States of America. According to the information received, on 26 January 2015, Mr. Abdullah Khaled Aziz Al-Zendan - a local farmer -, a 13-year-old boy and an unidentified male were killed as a result of a drone strike conducted in the Huraib area, Mareb Governorate, Yemen. The drone allegedly belonged to the authorities of the United States of America. It is further reported that, as a result of an earlier drone strike in October 2011, in the Shabwah Governorate, the 16-year-old brother and the father, Mr. Saleh Qaid Teayman, of the above-mentioned 13-year-old boy, were killed. Another brother of the 13-year-old-boy, Mr. Ezuldeen Saleh Taeyman, was severely injured in 2013 as a result of another drone strike. Reportedly, to date, no investigation has been initiated into any of these incidents and no reparation has been provided to the victims or their families. A communication with the same content has been sent to the Government of Yemen on 24 March 2015, see below, case no. YEM 1/2015. | 02/09/2015 |
| 27/03/2015<br>JUA | AUS 3/2015<br>**Australia** | **Disability;**<br>**Health;**<br>**Torture;** | Alleged ill-treatment and lack of adequate medical care of a prisoner with mental disabilities at Yalata Labour Prison. According to the information received, Mr. X, a 29-year-old United States citizen, has been subjected to ill-treatment and has not received adequate mental health care in detention. In 2008, when living in Adelaide, he was found not guilty for the crime of attempted homicide for reason of mental impairment, and was ordered by the court to be transferred to the State's highest-security mental health hospital, James Nash House, for a 13 year period. After nine months, in September 2009, officials at James Nash House transferred Mr. X to the Yatala Labour Prison, reportedly due to a lack of capacity for dealing with patients with "personality disorders". At Yatala Labour Prison, Mr. X reportedly remained in solitary confinement for five years and a half, until January 2015. He is confined to his cell for 23 hours a day with only one one-hour break where he is placed in a cagelike structure outdoors rather than the open yard. It is also reported that Mr. X has repeatedly been subjected to additional punitive measures, including handcuffing regimes (for nearly one year), and loud music blasting into his cell for four hours. | 27/11/2015 |

| Date<br>Type | Case No<br>Country | Mandate(s) | Summary of the allegation transmitted | Reply |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 27/03/2015<br>JUA | QAT 1/2015<br>**Qatar** | **Arbitrary detention;<br>Independence of judges and lawyers;<br>Torture;** | Alleged torture and/or ill-treatment, and unfair trial of a Filipino national in Qatar. According to the information received, Mr. Ronaldo Lopez Ulep, a Filipino national and civilian employee of Qatar's Air Force, was arrested in Doha on 7 April 2010. During his pre-trial detention, Mr. Lopez Ulep was reportedly subjected to physical and psychological torture and other ill-treatment. He was made to sign a document in Arabic, a language he does not understand, which was later presented in court as a confession of guilt. Mr. Lopez Ulep was also held in solitary confinement for over four years. On 30 April 2014, he was sentenced to life in prison on charges of espionage by the first instance criminal court. The appeal hearings, which started in May 2014, have been conducted in Arabic without the provision of interpretation. Mr. Lopez Ulep is currently detained in Doha's Central Prison. Serious concern is expressed concerning Mr. Lopez Ulep's physical and mental integrity. | 25/09/2015 |
| 10/04/2015<br>JAL | USA 7/2015<br>**United States of America** | **African descent;<br>Minority issues;<br>Racism;<br>Summary executions;<br>Torture;** | Alleged torture of African Americans and other minorities at Area 2 and 3 Police Headquarters in the city of Chicago from 1972 through 1991. According to the information received, African Americans and other minorities were subjected to various forms of torture, including with the purpose of obtaining confessions, which in turn resulted in incarcerations and death sentences. Some victims have been released because of evidence proving that Chicago police, under the direction of a former Police Commander, obtained their confessions through torture, while others victims, who were reportedly tortured into their confessions, remain incarcerated. To this date, no Chicago police officer or city official has been convicted for any acts of torture, and the United States' government has failed to abrogate the legislation that allows for impunity. | 05/08/2015<br>03/12/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 17/04/2015<br>JAL | IRL 1/2015<br>**Ireland** | **Discrimination against women;**<br>**Health;** | Allegations regarding the discriminatory effects of certain provisions contained in the Gender Recognition Bill (Number 116 of 2014). According to the information received, after being announced by the Government in September 2014, the Gender Recognition Bill (the Bill) was presented to the upper house of the Oireachtas – the Irish legislature - on 17 December 2014 and on 21 January 2015, and then examined on 5 March 2015 by the lower house. While acknowledging that the Bill is a positive attempt to provide access to legal recognition of gender identity for transgender people, concern is raised at provisions about mandatory medical certification, and disproportionate safeguards applied to children, which discriminate against transgender people and restrict their right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health, as well as their rights to privacy, equality before the law, and education. | 30/09/2015 |
| 17/04/2015<br>JAL | KWT 2/2015<br>**Kuwait** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest, temporary detention and charges brought against a human rights defender in an alleged act of reprisal for his cooperation with the United Nations in the field of human rights. According to the information received, on 20 March 2015, Mr. Nawaf al-Hendal, the Director of Kuwait Watch Organisation for Human Rights, delivered an oral statement to the 28th Human Rights Council in Geneva regarding the human rights situation in Kuwait. After his return to Kuwait, on 23 March 2015, Mr. Al-Hendal organized an observer team to monitor a protest outside the National Assembly in Al-Erada square in Kuwait City, which called for reform of the judiciary and the release of detained activists. At approximately 8.45 p.m., the Kuwaiti Special Police Force blocked the road towards the National Assembly and physically dispersed and beat the protestors. Mr. Al-Hendal was beaten and subsequently arrested and detained. On 25 March 2015, Mr. Al-Hendal was released from detention. He is currently awaiting trial on charges of "participating in an illegal demonstration". A travel ban has been imposed on him. | 28/04/2015<br>18/05/2015<br>05/06/2015<br>28/09/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 17/04/2015<br>JAL | USA 8/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Independence of judges and lawyers;**<br>**Terrorism;** | Alleged denial of the right to know the truth to the relatives of the victims killed in the terrorist attacks on the island of Bali on 12 October 2002. According to the information received, the prolonged detention in Guantanamo Bay of an Indonesian national who is believed to be the operations chief of the South East Asian Islamic militant group Jemaah Islamiah, reportedly involved in the planning of the so-called Bali bombings, results in the impossibility to obtain justice for Ms. Susanna Miller, Mr. Matthew Arnold, and Mrs. Maggie Stephens, who all lost a close family member in the bombings. A copy of this communication was addressed to the Government of Indonesia for information. | 17/08/2015 |
| 30/04/2015<br>JAL | USA 10/2015<br>**United States of America** | **African descent;**<br>**Health;**<br>**Torture;** | Allegations of racial discrimination against people of African descent and lack of access to appropriate medical treatment whilst in detention. According to the information received, Mr. Mumia Abu-Jamal (born Wesley Cook), a 61-year-old Afro-American detainee in State Correctional Institution at Mahanoy, Pennsylvania, has not had access to appropriate medical treatment while in detention. As a consequence his health situation has deteriorated over the past few months resulting in his admission to the intensive care unit (ICU) of a nearby clinic on 30 March 2015 in diabetic shock. It is alleged that as he had three "comprehensive" blood tests since February 2015, diabetes should have been diagnosed and treated accordingly. Instead his medical condition was reportedly ignored by the prison guards. Mr. Abu-Jamal was allegedly detained following an unfair trial which found him guilty of murder of a police officer in 1981. He is reportedly serving a life sentence without parole and has not been given a re-sentencing hearing in violation of Pennsylvania constitutional and statutory law. During his years in detention he has been active in writing about racial discrimination in the criminal justice system and advocating for justice and the rights of his fellow detainees. | 24/06/2015<br>11/09/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 04/05/2015<br>JAL | MAR 2/2015<br>**Maroc** | **Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Allégations de diverses restrictions au droit de réunion pacifique et à la liberté d'association d'une organisation de défense des droits de l'homme. Selon les informations reçues, depuis le mois de juillet 2014, l'Association marocaine des droits de l'homme (AMDH) fait l'objet de diverses restrictions quant à son droit de tenir des réunions pacifiques pour la protection et promotion des droits de l'homme. Il est également rapporté que l'administration a refusé de réceptionner des documents, ou de délivrer à diverses sections de l'association le récépissé confirmant leur notification de la composition d'un nouveau comité directeur ou de nouveaux statuts, tel que prévu par la législation nationale. | 28/08/2015 |
| 07/05/2015<br>JAL | USA 9/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Migrants;**<br>**Summary executions;** | Allegations of summary executions of three Mexican nationals in the United States of America. According to the information received, Mr. Antonio Zambrano-Montes, Mr. Ernesto Javier Canepa Diaz and a 31-year-old man, all three Mexican immigrants, were killed by police officers in February 2015 in different parts of the United States of America, allegedly as a result of disproportionate use of firearms. These incidents happened respectively on 10 February in Pasco, Washington; on 20 February in the City of Grapevine, Texas; and on 27 February, in Santa Ana, California. Concern is expressed at the circumstances of these killings, which appear to be the consequence of an excessive use of force by the police, and that the victims may have been shot while they did not carry any firearms that may have posed a threat to the safety of the police officers involved at the time of the shootings. | 25/06/2015<br>23/12/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 11/05/2015<br>JAL | USA 6/2015<br>**United States of America** | **African descent; Health; Hazardous substances and wastes;** | Allegation that members of a family in the United States of America suffered and continue to suffer from the adverse impact of toxic mercury which was used as a form of treatment for a sexually transmitted disease in the Rosenwald Fund Study. According to the information received, the Rosenwald Fund Study was launched in 1929 by the Government and involved approximately 40,000 African-Americans from six southern states. It is alleged that participants of the study, including Mr. Chester Noel and other members of his family, have suffered from the adverse effect of mercury and that multiple generations of the Noel family, including Ms. Helen Noel, as the descendants of the original victims exposed to mercury continue to suffer from adverse health impacts. Furthermore, it is alleged that the Government has not investigated these allegations and as a result the subjects of the Rosenwald Fund Study and their descendants have not received an effective remedy. | 11/09/2015 |
| 13/05/2015<br>JUA | SAU 2/2015<br>**Saudi Arabia** | **Freedom of religion; Summary executions;** | Alleged imposition of the death penalty after a trial that did not comply with due process and fair trial guarantees. According to the new information received, Mr. Sheikh Nimr Baqir Al-Nimr, who was sentenced to death on 15 October 2014 after a trial that allegedly did not meet the most stringent due process and fair trial guarantees, has been subjected to increasing ill-treatment. In addition, it has been reported that in April 2015 the authorities performed a medical intervention to extract a bullet from his body to prepare him for the execution. It is reported that it is a common practice in the country to remove, prior to an execution, all foreign objects from a person, which suggests that his execution may be imminent. Mr. Sheikh Nimr Baqir Al-Nimr was the subject of two previous communications sent on 28 August 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. SAU 7/2014, and on 17 November 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. SAU 12/2014. | 18/05/2015<br>26/10/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 15/05/2015<br>JAL | USA 11/2015<br>**United States of America** | **Adequate housing; Extreme poverty; Water and Sanitation;** | Alleged large-scale disconnection of water services disproportionally affecting poor African-American or Black households in the city of Baltimore. According to the information received, the Department of Public Works of the City of Baltimore has started to disconnect water services for households who are six months or more in arrears of more than 250 USD providing only a ten-day notice. The City announced plans to disconnect about 150 household per day starting at the end of March 2015. The combination of high poverty rates and water and sanitation bills which have tripled since 2000 has made water increasingly unaffordable for a large number of households. The assistance programme, which offers 161 USD to certain low-income households, is reported to be insufficient and difficult to access because of procedural and documentation requirements. These disconnections affect several rights, including the right to life, to health, to housing, and to water and sanitation. | 16/07/2015 |
| 18/05/2015<br>JUA | COL 1/2015<br>**Colombia** | **Disappearances; Human rights defenders;** | Presuntos actos intimidatorios y de hostigamiento contra una integrante del MOVICE (sección Barrancabermeja) y del Colectivo 16 de mayo. Según la información recibida, la Sra. Rocío Campos Pérez sufriría continuo hostigamiento y amenazas de muerte en contra de su persona debido a su trabajo con diferentes grupos poblacionales. Anteriormente, la Sra. Rocío Campos Pérez fue objeto de una comunicación enviada el 2 de agosto de 2013, ver A/HRC/25/74, caso COL 8/2013. | 19/10/2015 |
| 18/05/2015<br>JUA | ESP 8/2015<br>**Spain** | **Disability; Health;** | Presuntas violaciones del derecho a la educación inclusiva y discriminación de una niña autista. De acuerdo con la información recibida, desde el 20 de marzo de 2015, una niña autista de 10 años ha sido excluida del sistema general de educación, cuando en un colegio de la provincia de Málaga, las familias de sus compañeros de clase expresaron rechazo a su presencia en el aula, mediante una huelga, afectando su salud física y mental. Siguiendo las recomendaciones de los profesionales que acompañan el desarrollo de la niña, los padres decidieron que dejara de acudir a clase y solicitaron a la Delegación Territorial de Educación, Cultura y Deporte en Málaga su reubicación urgente en otro colegio. Esta solicitud se fundamentó, tanto en la falta de ajustes razonables y de recursos necesarios, como en la imposibilidad de reconstruir un entorno educativo adecuado. Hasta la fecha la niña continua excluida del sistema regular de educación. | 04/08/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20/05/2015<br>AL | BDI 4/2015<br>**Burundi** | **Discrimination against women;** | Lettre concernant des normes discriminatoires envers les femmes dans le Code des Personnes et de la Famille du Burundi issu du décret/loi N° 1/024 du 28 Avril 1993. Selon les informations reçues, l'article 122 est discriminatoire à l'égard de la femme et stipule en outre, que le mari est le chef de la famille. | 07/08/2015 |
| 20/05/2015<br>JUA | MKD 2/2015<br>**The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia** | **Arbitrary detention;**<br>**Freedom of expression;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;** | Alleged arbitrary arrest, detention and prosecution of a large number of individuals in the context of peaceful protests in the city of Skopje between 5 and 13 May 2015. According to the information received, on 5 May 2015, 42 people were arrested and detained for their presumed role in peaceful protests denouncing police brutality and the lack of accountability for the killing of a protestor on 6 June 2011, which occurred in the context of the post-2011 parliamentary election celebrations, in Skopje. Information further suggests that out of these 42 people, 12 were placed in pre-trial detention and face criminal charges and that an additional four individuals were arrested and placed in pre-trial detention under the same charges on 13 May 2015. Allegedly, the pre-trial detention of these individuals is used to prevent them from taking part in the ongoing peaceful demonstrations. | 30/07/2015<br>18/09/2015 |
| 28/05/2015<br>JAL | SLV 2/2015<br>**El Salvador** | **Disability;**<br>**Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association;**<br>**Human rights defenders;**<br>**Summary executions;** | Alegaciones sobre el presunto asesinato de dos defensores, padre e hijo, de los derechos de las personas con discapacidad en El Salvador. Según la información recibida, tanto el Sr. Israel Antonio Quintanilla –presidente de la Asociación de Lisiados de Guerra (ALGES) y persona con discapacidad- como su hijo el Sr. Carlos Alberto Quintanilla Zavala, habrían desaparecido el 1 de mayo de 2015 tras haber participado en la marcha del día de los trabajadores. El 4 de mayo de 2015, el cadáver del Sr. Quintanilla habría sido encontrado en Santa Cruz Turillo y el día siguiente, el cuerpo del Sr. Quintanilla Zavala habría sido hallado en las cercanías del cadáver de su padre. Preocupa que los presuntos asesinatos puedan estar ligados a su trabajo en defensa de los derechos de las personas con discapacidad a consecuencia del conflicto armado en El Salvador. | 27/07/2015<br>11/08/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 28/05/2015<br>JAL | MDA 3/2015<br>**Republic of Moldova** | **Extreme poverty; Minority issues;** | Alleged failure to fully implement the Moldova Roma Community Action Plan. According to the information received, the Government of Moldova has failed to place 48 Roma community mediators in 44 communities as originally envisaged by the Action Plan. The recent decentralization of the funding structure for the mediators has reportedly had the opposite effect and resulted in a decrease in the number of mediators engaged. The letter calls on the Government to fully implement the recommendations made by the former Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights following her country visit to Moldova in September 2013 and requests information on the development of a Roma Inclusion Action Plan for the next five-year period (2016-2020). | 03/08/2015 |
| 29/05/2015<br>JAL | AZE 2/2015<br>**Azerbaijan** | **Freedom of expression; Freedom of peaceful assembly and of association; Health; Human rights defenders; Independence of judges and lawyers; Torture;** | Alleged pre-trial detention, charges and sentencing of human rights defenders as a result of their legitimate human rights work. According to the information received, on 16 April 2015, Nasimi District Court sentenced Mr. Rasul Jafarov, coordinator of Art of Democracy, an artistic campaign promoting human rights and democracy in Azerbaijan, to six and a half years in prison on charges of illegal business. On 22 April 2015, the same Court sentenced Mr. Intigam Aliyev, a human rights lawyer and head of the Legal Education Society, to seven years and six months in prison and a three-year ban from certain positions and activities. Reports indicate that Mr. Aliyev has been denied access to medical treatment while in detention. On 6 March 2015 and again on 14 May 2015, the same Court extended journalist Ms. Khadija Ismail's pre-trial detention. On 19 August 2014, new charges were brought against Mr. Emin Huseynov, chairman of the Institute for Reporters' Freedom and Safety, who had been subject of a previous communication sent on 24 June 2008, see A/HRC/10/12/Add.1, case no. AZE 1/2008. Mr. Aliyev was the subject of two previous communications, dated 1 February 2013, see A/HRC/23/51, case no. AZE 2/2013 and 15 August 2014, see A/HRC/28/85, case no. AZE 5/2014. Ms. Ismail was the subject of a previous communication dated 1 February 2013, A/HRC/23/51, case no. AZE 2/2013. Mr. Jafarov was the subject of a previous communication dated 12 August 2014, A/HRC/28/85, case no. AZE 4/2014. | 11/09/2015 |

| *Date*<br>*Type* | *Case No*<br>*Country* | *Mandate(s)* | *Summary of the allegation transmitted* | *Reply* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 29/05/2015<br>UA | ECU 2/2015<br>**Ecuador** | **Adequate housing;** | Alegato de desalojo forzoso de aproximadamente doscientas personas residentes en la cooperativa Mélida Toral, ubicada en la Isla Trinitaria, Guayaquil, el día 27 de Marzo de 2015. Se alega que el desalojo tuvo lugar de manera violenta, con uso de maquinaria pesada para derribar viviendas auto-construidas de caña y madera, y sin que se haya establecido previamente un plan de contingencia para las familias residentes en el sector. Se señala que entre los residentes desalojados se encontraban 93 niños y niñas, dos mujeres embarazadas y dos personas con discapacidad. Se sostiene que el desalojo forzoso se llevó a cabo de manera sorpresiva mientras estaban pendientes acciones de mediación dispuestas por la Defensoría del Pueblo del Ecuador. Conforme a la información recibida, a pesar de las semanas transcurridas, dichas personas permanecen sin techo y sin alternativas de vivienda adecuadas. Se expresa grave preocupación ya que los hechos alegados parecen indicar una violación prima facie del derecho a una vivienda adecuada. Se llama a las autoridades competentes a dar respuesta inmediata a la situación de las personas desalojadas. | 11/11/2015 |

# Appendix

## Mandates of special procedures

| *Mandate title* | *Human Rights Council resolution* |
|---|---|
| Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context | 25/17 |
| Working Group of Experts on people of African descent | 27/25 |
| Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights of persons with albinism | 28/6 |
| Working Group on Arbitrary Detention | 24/7 |
| Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus | 23/15 |
| Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Cambodia | 24/29 |
| Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Central African Republic | 24/34 |
| Independent Expert on capacity-building and technical cooperation with Côte d'Ivoire | 26/32 |
| Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights | 28/9 |
| Independent expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order | 27/9 |
| Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea | 25/25 |
| Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities | 26/20 |
| Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea | 23/21 |
| Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances | 27/1 |
| Independent expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights | 25/16 |
| Special Rapporteur on the right to education | 26/17 |
| Independent Expert on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment | 28/11 |
| Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights | 26/3 |
| Special Rapporteur on the right to food | 22/9 |
| Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression | 25/2 |
| Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association | 24/5 |
| Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief | 22/20 |

| *Mandate title* | *Human Rights Council resolution* |
|---|---|
| Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Haiti | PRST 25/1 |
| Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health | 26/21 |
| Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders | 25/18 |
| Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers | 26/7 |
| Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples | 24/9 |
| Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons | 23/8 |
| Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran | 25/24 |
| Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Mali | 25/36 |
| Working Group on the use of mercenaries | 24/13 |
| Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants | 26/19 |
| Special Rapporteur on minority issues | 25/5 |
| Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar | 25/26 |
| Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons | 24/20 |
| Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 | 5/1 |
| Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy | 28/16 |
| Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation & guarantees of non-recurrence | 27/3 |
| Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance | 25/32 |
| Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography | 25/6 |
| Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery | 24/3 |
| Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity | 26/6 |
| Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Sudan | 24/28 |
| Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in Somalia | 24/30 |
| Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions | 26/12 |
| Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic | S-18/1 |
| Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism | 22/8 |

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**Human Rights Council**
**Thirty-first session**
Agenda items 2 and 10
**Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General**

**Technical assistance and capacity-building**

# Technical cooperation and capacity-building to promote and protect the rights of all migrants, including women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities

## Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

*Summary*

In the present report, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights provides examples of the type of technical assistance and advisory services provided by the Office of the High Commissioner , alone or with other United Nations entities, to promote and protect the rights of migrants. It is based on research undertaken by the Office on national and regional experiences and highlights methodologies, good practices and lessons learned that have been gathered by the Office in the field and at headquarters.

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# I. Introduction and methodology

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 30/21, in which the Council requested the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to prepare a report on the activities undertaken by the Office, other relevant United Nations agencies and, where applicable, regional organizations, to support efforts by States to promote and protect the rights of migrants in their national legislations, policies and programmes. It will serve as a basis for a thematic panel discussion to be held by the Council at its thirty-first session under agenda item 10.

2. In its resolution 30/21, the Human Rights Council acknowledged the cultural and economic contributions made by migrants to their communities of origin and destination, and the need to identify appropriate means of maximizing development benefits, to respond to the challenges that migration poses to countries of origin, transit and destination, to promote dignified, humane treatment with applicable protections and access to basic services, and to strengthen mechanisms for international cooperation. It recognized that States were responsible for promoting and protecting the human rights of all persons who are in their territory and subject to their jurisdiction, including irregular migrants, in accordance with their international human rights obligations, and the shared responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination to promote and protect the human rights of migrants, and avoid approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability, bearing in mind the need to address the special situation and vulnerability of migrant women and girls. It expressed deep concern at the large and growing number of migrants, in particular women and children, including those unaccompanied or separated from their parents, who find themselves in a vulnerable situation when they attempt to cross international borders, and recognized the obligation of States to respect the human rights of those migrants, in accordance with their applicable international human rights obligations.

3. The present report covers the period from 2010 to 2015, considered a reasonable time frame within which incipient results can be provided. It illustrates the kind of work that OHCHR has undertaken to advance respect for migrants' rights in response to requests and expressions of interest by Member States. It presents initiatives and strategies that have shown potential for promoting and protecting the rights of migrants, and highlights methodologies, good practices and lessons learned gathered by OHCHR in the field and at headquarters. The report is organized around the relevant results (expected accomplishments) that OHCHR has set for itself in the area of migration, and includes a number of initiatives that OHCHR has taken in cooperation with other United Nations entities and regional organizations.

4. The integration of human rights norms and standards in migration policy and the adoption of a human rights-based approach at the national, regional and international levels have long been a priority of OHCHR. Before 2013, the protection of human rights in the context of migration was a thematic priority. In 2013, the OHCHR Management Plan for the period 2014-2017 mainstreamed migration across six thematic priorities for OHCHR in order to better integrate work on migration throughout the Office's activities.

5. The present report describes a selection of technical cooperation practices developed by OHCHR and other United Nations entities and regional organizations that have proved effective and yielded visible results when supporting State efforts to align national policies, strategies and laws with international human rights norms and principles, recommendations and commitments. To facilitate discussions in the Human Rights Council, these experiences have been organized under the expected accomplishments of OHCHR that are most relevant to technical cooperation and advisory services in the area of migration, taking into account the contributions received from other United Nations entities and regional

organizations. This methodology provides a non-exhaustive overview of practices that are representative of the human rights technical cooperation and advisory services provided.

6. Through their technical cooperation and advisory services, the United Nations and regional organizations seek to assist States to ensure that duty-bearers uphold their human rights obligations. They support States' efforts to ensure that national legislation, policies, programmes and institutions comply with international human rights standards; to ratify international and regional human rights treaties and review reservations; to establish functioning and compliant national and regional protection systems and accountability mechanisms to monitor, investigate and redress human rights violations; and to build or strengthen mechanisms that enable rights-holders, in particular women and groups subject to discrimination, to claim their rights. At the international level, OHCHR assists States to meet their obligations by supporting their engagement with international human rights mechanisms and bodies, in association with other United Nations entities and, where pertinent, regional organizations.

7. To prepare the present report, OHCHR gathered information on the experiences, methodologies and learning of OHCHR headquarters and field presences, including regional and country offices, human rights components of United Nations peace missions, and human rights advisers to United Nations country teams, which work closely with host governments. Through the Global Migration Group, the Office also requested contributions from other United Nations entities and regional organizations. Contributions were received from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).

## II. Framework for technical cooperation in the context of migration

8. The movement of people across national boundaries is a universal human phenomenon. Approximately 244 million people, or 3 per cent of the world's population, currently live outside their countries of origin, and approximately half of them are women and girls. Of these, ILO estimated in December 2015 that some 150 million were migrant workers.[1]

9. Migration is a multifaceted and complex phenomenon. It may be temporary or permanent, forced or voluntary, and makes use of regular and irregular channels of travel. Migrants move within and between countries of the global South and North, and migration affects all regions of the world. Migration patterns have a powerful impact on the economies, societies and cultures of countries of origin, transit and destination. At the same time, it must always be remembered that at the heart of migration are individual human beings who are entitled to the full range of human rights.

10. While many migrants are able freely and safely to move, live and work with dignity, millions of migrants are driven into insecure and vulnerable conditions as a result of economic disparities, conflict, environmental degradation, limited regular opportunities for migration, lack of access to rights such as health and education, and discrimination. Furthermore, as governments seek to combat irregular migration, including by strengthened

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[1] *ILO Global estimates of migrant workers and migrant domestic workers: results and methodology* (ILO, Geneva, 2015).

frontier controls, borders can become sites of violence, discrimination and abuse. Increased border surveillance and securitization, together with a drastic reduction of accessible avenues for regular migration, have caused migrants to seek more perilous routes. Many rely on the services of brokers, agents, smugglers and other private actors, and some fall into the hands of abusive smugglers and traffickers. Smuggling does not in itself constitute a human rights violation, although in the course of smuggling the human rights of migrants can be abused (see A/HRC/31/35); trafficking, by contrast, is always a human rights violation. In a distinct but complementary dimension of its work, OHCHR has made progress in advancing on the human rights-based approach to combat and prevent trafficking, which makes use of technical support and capacity-building and supports the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children.

11. In countries of destination, regular and irregular migrants may find themselves subject to systematic discrimination and without access to their fundamental rights to health, housing and decent work. Exclusionary and xenophobic political rhetoric has spread around the world, fuelling intolerance and resentment of migrants, often leading to acts of violence, hate crimes and hate speech. Hidden away in private households, migrant domestic workers are frequently subject to intolerable living and working conditions.

12. Women and children, and other vulnerable groups (such as persons with disabilities and older persons) are at particular risk of violence and discrimination in the course of migration. In its general recommendation No. 26 (2008) on women migrant workers, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women highlighted the fact that undocumented women migrant workers were particularly vulnerable to exploitation and abuse because of their irregular immigration status, which exacerbated their exclusion and the risk of exploitation. They could be exploited as forced labour, and their access to minimum labour rights could be limited by fear of denouncement. They could also face harassment by the police. If apprehended, they were usually prosecuted for violations of immigration laws and placed in detention centres, where they were vulnerable to sexual abuse, and then deported.

13. Migrant children and adolescents, particularly those in an irregular situation, are also exposed to human rights violations and abuses at various points of their journey. The risks to unaccompanied and separated migrant children are of particular concern to OHCHR, other United Nations entities, and regional organizations. During recent migration and asylum flows to Europe and the United States of America, their number has increased dramatically. Under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international standards, States have a duty to immediately identify and protect such children, acting in their best interests. However, migration policies and practices frequently allow immigration enforcement to override child protection imperatives, putting such children at additional risk of exploitation and human rights abuse. In many countries, furthermore, age determination procedures do not fully respect international standards. OHCHR and other United Nations agencies, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), have worked together to assist States to develop adequate safeguards, policies and programmes that comply with international standards.

14. In the past five years, OHCHR has strengthened its work on migration, including to provide better support to States and regional organizations as they address these and other challenges on the ground. Technical cooperation, an integral element of all OHCHR programmes, is one of the vehicles used by the Office to provide this support. Including both technical assistance and capacity-building, it aims to identify and address knowledge and capacity gaps, to facilitate constructive dialogue and to help national counterparts to achieve positive change. OHCHR undertakes technical cooperation activities at the request and with the agreement of States. They include a comprehensive assessment of the human

rights situation in a given country, and seek to align laws, policies, institutions and practices with international standards and obligations. Technical assistance and capacity-building complement other key OHCHR functions, as set out by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/141.

15. Supporting good technical cooperation work requires understanding better the real situations faced by those persons and groups affected and discussing possible workable solutions with them and all relevant actors. OHCHR released a short documentary film in 2015, "I Am Not Here", in collaboration with Oscar-nominated director Ashvin Kumar, that follows the stories of three women in cities in Switzerland, the United States and Malaysia. It highlights the situation of undocumented women migrant domestic workers, millions of whom live in the shadows. The aim of making the film with all partners involved was to give a voice to those who are too often silenced, and to provide a platform for those who do not dare to come out of hiding. Around the world, millions of undocumented migrant domestic workers – women, men and even children – live their lives in the shadows, with no access services that others take for granted, and afraid to complain when they are ill-treated. The film was launched on the margins of the thirtieth session of the Human Rights Council, and has been screened to audiences in New York, Bangkok, Mumbai, London and New Delhi.

16. Since the creation of the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, OHCHR has worked closely with States to support their efforts to advance the enjoyment of human rights by all persons, including migrants. Its work has included advisory services, including technical advice on institution-building and strengthening legislation and policies; training; awareness-raising initiatives; national workshops; dialogue facilitation; provision of documentation, publications and web tools; and the sharing of good practices from other countries. OHCHR, including through its field presences, promotes and supports the efforts of States to apply a human rights-based approach to migration. Numerous United Nations organizations and regional bodies work with and support States through technical cooperation in the area of migration. OHCHR therefore strives to ensure that its support falls within the High Commissioner's mandate and in areas where the Office's expertise adds value and has a comparative advantage. The Office works closely with all relevant United Nations agencies and regional organizations to ensure that the support they provide at the request of States is complementary and effective.

17. Through its field presences and headquarters, OHCHR engages directly with governments and actively cooperates with national stakeholders to promote and protect human rights, not least by applying mechanisms that protect marginalized groups at particular risk, such as migrants. Its technical support applies a human rights-based approach that upholds the universality, inalienability, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights, thereby ensuring that decisions and objectives are achieved in a participative and inclusive manner that respects the rule of law, is accountable and transparent, and avoids discrimination.

18. The Board of Trustees that oversees the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights and the Voluntary Fund for Financial and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of the Universal Periodic Review (two key financial sources for OHCHR technical assistance) advises the Office on policy and strategic orientation with regard to technical cooperation. During its field sessions, the Board has discussed migration with the main counterparts and observed examples of cooperation. Some of these, in Mauritania, Mexico and Tunisia, are described in the present report. The OHCHR performance monitoring system, a results-based management tool, also provided information for this report on how and how well results were reached. The system has

proved particularly useful for identifying relevant areas of cooperation since 2014, when migration was mainstreamed within the Office's six principal thematic strategies.

19. As a founding member of the Global Migration Group and Co-Chair of its Working Group on Migration, Human Rights and Gender, OHCHR has sought to inject a human rights perspective into national, regional and global discussions on migration. The High Commissioner has personally highlighted the importance of migration and the protection of migrants' rights in a number of public statements and keynote speeches, in addition to publishing joint statements on the plight of migrants in the Mediterranean and South-East Asia with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Director-General of IOM and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on International Migration and Development (the "quartet"). OHCHR will work closely with Global Migration Group and quartet partners to ensure that the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on large-scale movements of refugees and migrants, to be organized by the Secretary-General at the seventy-first session of the Assembly, will be human rights-based and migrant-centred.

# III. National and regional technical cooperation experiences to promote and protect the rights of all migrants, including women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities

## A. Compliance of national legislation, policies, programmes and institutions, including the judiciary and national human rights institutions, with international human rights standards

20. At the global level, OHCHR launched its Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights at International Borders during the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, and subsequently in Brussels, Geneva and other regional settings. The Principles address capacity-building, rescue and interception, assistance, screening, identification and referral, as well as conditions of detention and removal, and have been broadly welcomed by a wide range of stakeholders. Member States are already applying the Principles: for example, in Switzerland, the State Secretariat on Migration refers to them in its internal guidance.

21. The Working Group on Human Rights and Gender of the Global Migration Group (which OHCHR co-chairs with UN-Women) has agreed to develop practical guidance drawn from international human rights law and related standards to ensure that responses to "mixed migration flows" are human rights-based.

22. In June 2015, OHCHR held an expert meeting on the theme, "Human rights and migrant smuggling: exploring issues and challenges", which convened experts from United Nations agencies, Member States, academia and civil society to discuss smuggling from a human rights perspective.

23. In its resolution 29/2, the Human Rights Council requested OHCHR to submit to the Council before its thirty-first session a study on the situation of migrants in transit, in consultation with States and other stakeholders. The report will address several of the concerns raised by the Council in resolution 29/2, notably the risks faced by women migrants and children, in particular unaccompanied and separated children.

24. OHCHR provides substantive technical assistance on human rights to the Global Forum on Migration and Development for its annual meeting , participating in and informing government teams, drafting background documentation and contributing to

discussions. For instance, OHCHR led the drafting of a background paper on the theme "Partnerships to promote inclusion and protect the human rights of all migrants in order to achieve the full benefits of migration" for the Global Forum in Turkey in 2015, and produced a short brochure entitled "Public Perceptions, Migration and Human Rights" for dissemination to participants in the meeting of the Global Forum in Mauritius in 2012.

25. In the framework of the Global Action Programme on Migrant Domestic Workers and their Families, in September 2015 OHCHR convened a global seminar in Bangkok on the human rights of migrant domestic workers in an irregular situation. The discussion shed light on the human rights challenges that such domestic workers face, and the gaps in their protection. In addition to government representatives, the participants included experts from human rights mechanisms, United Nations agencies, human rights and migrants' rights non-governmental organizations, domestic workers' and migrants' associations, trade unions and academic institutions. OHCHR released the report "Behind closed doors: protecting and promoting the human rights of migrant domestic workers in an irregular situation" during the event, and subsequently produced an outcome document with 10 key messages on protecting and promoting the human rights of migrant domestic workers. In May 2010, the OHCHR Regional Office for Europe organized a colloquium in Brussels on this important issue. Its findings were set out by the Regional Office in a background paper, entitled "Rights of Migrant Domestic Workers in Europe" for an ILO conference that included discussions on the possibility of a new ILO convention on domestic workers.

26. In March 2015, OHCHR published a study on the economic, social and cultural rights of migrants in an irregular situation. Designed for use by government policymakers, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations, lawyers, judges and migrants themselves, it describes the scope and content of the human rights of undocumented migrants, notably in the areas of health, housing, education and employment. In December 2015, the Regional Office held a seminar entitled "Economic, social and cultural rights of migrants: beyond the immediate crisis", at which representatives of governments, national human rights institutions and ombuds offices, civil society and international and regional organizations debated promising policies and practices in member States of the European Union with respect to the economic, social and cultural rights of migrants, regardless of administrative status.

### 1. High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development: promoting inclusive cooperation and dialogue

27. In the lead-up to the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held on 3 and 4 October 2013, in June 2013 OHCHR organized an expert meeting on migration, human rights and governance. Member States discussed relevant issues with representatives of Global Migration Group agencies, human rights mechanisms, regional organizations, international and regional non-governmental organizations, trade unions and academic bodies. In the report that it subsequently issued, entitled "Improving human rights-based governance of international migration", OHCHR identified the ongoing need for regular cooperation and dialogue in the United Nations between all stakeholders, including States, civil society and migrants themselves, to identify and address policy and knowledge gaps on cross-cutting and emerging migration issues. At the High-level Dialogue itself, OHCHR helped to ensure that discussions focused on human rights; for example, the High Commissioner formally participated in a panel discussion, and gave key note addresses at several important side events, which were welcomed by States, civil society partners and other stakeholders.

### 2. Mexico and Tunisia: piloting indicators of migrants' human rights

28. In April 2015, responding to requests by States for assistance with data collection and disaggregation, OHCHR, the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development of the World Bank, UNICEF, ILO and the Migrant Forum in Asia organized an expert meeting to develop indicators on the human rights of migrants, focusing on the rights to health, education and decent work. Participants in the two-day meeting characterized the essential attributes of the rights enshrined in international instruments and identified contextually relevant indicators and benchmarks for measuring the degree to which the human rights of migrants had been met, particularly at the country level. They highlighted the need for data on the situation of migrants and their families, and for indicators that could be used to improve the design of migration policies and programmes. The meeting was attended by local and national government officials, human rights and migration experts, statisticians and representatives of civil society organizations with expertise in data collection.

29. Mexico took a lead in piloting the implementation of the findings made at the expert meeting. A national consultation in May 2015 assessed and refined the proposed indicators and confirmed the feasibility of producing disaggregated data on migrants. The exercise produced useful proposals for improving data collection, including one to establish a national information system on migration, which is currently under development.

30. As part of the same initiative, OHCHR started work on a national pilot consultation in Tunisia, which will be conducted with the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, UNICEF, ILO and the Migrant Forum in Asia. The Tunisian National Observatory for Migration will lead in taking the project forward and will host a consultation in early February 2016 to assess the applicability of various human rights indicators to migration in Tunisia. Participants will include relevant ministries, the national statistics office, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders.

### 3. Tunisia: framing a national migration strategy compliant with international standards

31. ILO and OHCHR advised and assisted the Government of Tunisia in formulating a national road map for labour migration policies. Developed in the course of tripartite discussions between the Ministry of Social Affairs of Tunisia, the labour union (UGTT) and the employers' union (UTICA), the road map sets out the final outputs of a programme to enhance the governance of labour migration and the protection of migrant workers' rights in Tunisia, as well as technical cooperation priorities. The latter include, inter alia, capacity-building programmes to protect the rights of migrants in Tunisia and programmes to strengthen Tunisian social dialogue on migration. As advocated by OHCHR, the road map foresees a broad advocacy campaign leading to the State's swift adoption of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.

32. Reflecting this initiative, ILO and OHCHR provided technical advice on legislative reform with respect to labour migration in the State. A workshop held early in 2016 will bring together Tunisian ministries, Members of Parliament, social partners, and ILO and OHCHR experts to explore the steps required to ratify the Convention on Migrant Workers and ILO Conventions 97, 143 and 189. It will also address key topics, including the protection of the rights of Tunisians abroad; the situation of domestic workers in Tunisia; potential reform of the labour code; the role of labour inspectors in protecting migrant workers' rights; and challenges and opportunities that migrant workers experience in their access to the national labour market. ILO and OHCHR will draft technical notes and

documents on each of the above themes and advise the Government on how it might implement the reforms envisaged.

33. In 2015, OHCHR, in collaboration with IOM and ILO, trained 20 officials from ministries that deal directly with migration on a human rights-based approach to migration. OHCHR also gave an introductory session on human rights indicators with regard to migrants.

### 4. Mauritania: promoting national plans of action on trafficking and migration

34. In November 2015, under the coordination of the Commissariat for Human Rights and Humanitarian Action, the Government of Mauritania prepared a draft national plan of action to stop trafficking in persons, in accordance with a recommendation made during the first cycle of the universal periodic review. OHCHR submitted substantive observations and recommendations on best practices. At the end of 2015, the draft plan on trafficking was awaiting finalization and adoption by the Council of Ministers.

35. Looking forward, OHCHR will continue to assist the Government of Mauritania to prepare and adopt a national plan of action for migrants by 2017 that complies with international standards and includes a consultation mechanism for its implementation.

### 5. Guatemala: compliance with international standards

36. OHCHR continued to provide technical assistance and advice to various commissions in the Congress of Guatemala, with the objective of ensuring that initiatives and legal reforms on migration comply with international standards. OHCHR worked closely with the Commission on Migrants, relevant authorities and civil society on reform of the law on migration. The views expressed by the Office, and the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants and the Committee on the on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families were incorporated into the draft, which no longer focuses purely on national security and border control.

### 6. Lebanon: drafting a code of conduct for recruiting agencies

37. At the country level, OHCHR assisted governments, national human rights institutions and civil society entities to draft and revise legislation on migrants in a manner that conforms with international human rights standards. In Lebanon, for instance, the Regional Office for the Middle East helped to develop a code of conduct for recruiting agencies working with migrant domestic workers, and took a range of initiatives that made recruiting agencies more aware of international human rights standards relevant to migrants and migration.

### 7. Seychelles: assisting the Government in combating trafficking

38. In 2014, the National Assembly of Seychelles enacted the Prohibition on Trafficking in Persons Act, which penalizes trafficking in persons and makes provisions for protecting and rehabilitating victims of trafficking. The Act established a national interministerial coordinating committee to harmonize the State's efforts to combat trafficking in persons and oversee the implementation of the National Strategy and Action Plan on Trafficking in Persons. The law was enacted in response to the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, following her visit to the State in January 2014 (see A/HRC/26/37/Add.7).

### 8. Costa Rica: improving migrants' access to services

39. Through the Joint Programme on Youth, Employment and Migration, IOM, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNHCR facilitate the educational integration of young migrants and refugees in two cities in Costa Rica. The Programme runs workshops in selected communities to raise teachers' awareness of young migrants' rights, and assists officials in improving the access of migrants to health and education, immigration advice and labour opportunities.

### 9. European Union: human rights training for border authorities

40. OHCHR provided technical assistance to the European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders of Member States of the European Union (FRONTEX). In 2012, it helped develop human rights training materials for border guards, raising their awareness of approaches to migration from a human rights perspective.

41. In 2014, FRONTEX, in association with OHCHR, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, IOM, UNHCR and national practitioners, organized two training-of-trainer sessions on combating and preventing trafficking in human beings for border guards in Member States of the European Union. The sessions were attended by border and immigration authorities from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

42. OHCHR and UNHCR are delivering training on human rights norms and standards to personnel of the European Union naval force set up to detect and monitor smuggling networks in the Mediterranean. OHCHR also contributed to the force's distance learning package.

43. Since 2012, facilitated by FRONTEX, the Regional Office for Europe has been training trainers of border guards in both member and non-member States of the European Union on combating and preventing trafficking in human beings. Since 2014, it has also provided training to those who teach border guards about human rights, focusing on the rights of migrants. Training focuses on increasing participants' awareness and understanding of international and regional human rights standards relating to migrants, and sanctions on trafficking in human beings.

### 10. European Union: supporting a right-based approach to European Union legislation and programme frameworks against trafficking in human beings

44. In 2011, when the European Union began to prepare Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims, a number of United Nations agencies submitted a joint statement to the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament in which they invited the European Union to adopt a human rights-based approach that was both gender- and age-sensitive. OHCHR subsequently participated actively in the elaboration and adoption of the Directive, in association with other United Nations agencies, including ILO, UNHCR, UNICEF, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and UN-Women.

45. In 2012, OHCHR, together with five Brussels-based United Nations agencies, finalized and launched a joint United Nations commentary on the Anti-Trafficking Directive. Designed for policymakers, legislators and civil society organizations, the commentary was designed to assist member States of the European Union to integrate the Directive into national legislation, building on previous engagement of the United Nations with European Union institutions in this area. It provides practical guidance on the application of a human rights-based approach to the implementation of the Directive,

putting human rights at the centre of all efforts, including when dealing with the criminal dimensions of trafficking in and the smuggling of persons.

46. In April 2013, OHCHR and the Regional Office for Europe organized a seminar in Brussels on the recommendations that United Nations human rights mechanisms – treaty bodies, special procedures and the universal periodic review – had made to member States of the European Union on the subject of migrants' rights. At the seminar, participants explored how the recommendations could be applied to improve respect for migrants' human rights. Representatives of 24 member States of the European Union and of national human rights institutions heard presentations by OHCHR experts, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants, the European Commission, UNICEF, IOM, the Council of Europe, and Amnesty International. Meeting under the Chatham House rule, the participants examined, inter alia, policies to prevent the detention of migrant children, the separation of migrant children from their families, migrants' access to national health insurance schemes, and legal protection of migrant domestic workers.

### 11. Ethiopia: addressing youth employment and distress migration

47. FAO works in Ethiopia (and also Tunisia) to address the root causes of migration and to promote innovative mechanisms to generate rural youth employment. The project "Youth mobility, food security and rural poverty reduction: fostering rural diversification through enhanced youth employment and better labour mobility" meets the needs of rural young adults and maximizes the development benefits that migrants can bring to their communities of origin. It has used remittances to generate productive activities, explored the potential of sustainable production practices to generate "green" jobs, and facilitated seasonal employment opportunities for young adults. The aim is to identify successful practices and to replicate them in other countries.

### 12. Africa region: the importance of sound data for policymaking

48. The Population Division and the Statistic Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Economic Commission for Africa organized two regional workshops: in November 2014, in Addis Ababa, and in September 2015, in Dakar. Their main objective was to strengthen the technical capacity of government officials who produce, analyse and apply migration data from all sources, and their capacity to inform national migration policies and development plans. The workshops were aimed at enabling participating countries to produce national migration data that meet international standards, and increasing understanding of the uses and limitations of migration data for policy purposes, including policies associated with the implementation of the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration[2] and Development and the post-2015 development agenda.

49. The workshop in Addis Ababa brought together experts from national statistical offices responsible for official statistics on international migration, relevant ministries or agencies that compile and analyse administrative migration data for policy purposes, and representatives of ministries in Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Delegates from Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Libya, Mali, Mauretania, Morocco, the Niger, Senegal and Togo attended the workshop in Dakar.

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[2] General Assembly resolution 68/4.

### 13. North Africa: protecting migrants and asylum seekers

50. In its resolution 17/22, the Human Rights Council requested OHCHR to monitor the situation of migrants and asylum seekers in North Africa. In he report submitted to the Council pursuant to that request (A/HRC/18/54), OHCHR highlighted the human rights concerns associated with the displacement of migrants and asylum seekers fleeing events in North Africa between January and August 2011, described the international response, and made recommendations designed to protect the human rights of migrants and asylum seekers.

## B. Ratification of international and regional human rights instruments, and review of reservations

### 1. Supporting ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and national legislation compliant with international standards

51. During the period under review, OHCHR assisted a number of national governments that plan to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families by 2017, notably Djibouti, Ethiopia, Honduras, Liberia and Zimbabwe.

52. In December 2010, on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Convention, the OHCHR Regional Office for Europe organized a seminar in the European Parliament with the participation of European Members of Parliament representing several political groups. It presented the draft of a comprehensive study on how best to narrow the gap between European Union law and the Convention. The event addressed the often-repeated but anachronistic and occasionally self-contradictory arguments put forward by States that oppose ratification of the Convention. Several members of the European Parliament attended the official launch of the OHCHR publication *Rights of Migrant Workers in Europe*.

### 2. Madagascar: supporting ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and national legislation compliant with international standards

53. Since 2007, thousands of Malagasy migrant workers have sought employment abroad, notably in Kuwait, Lebanon, Mauritius, Saudi Arabia and Seychelles. Drawn by promises of better working conditions, many have been exploited and suffered ill-treatment. When the Minister for the Public Function and Social Affairs decided to send 500 domestic workers per month to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia in 2014, OHCHR, IOM and civil society organizations, with the Ministry of Justice, organized a meeting in the Prime Minister's Office to discuss the need to protect the rights of Malagasy migrant workers. The Governing Council subsequently issued a decree that suspended the transfer of non-qualified Malagasy labour to countries that could not provide sufficient protection for migrant workers.

54. On 27 November 2013, Madagascar ratified the Convention. Through advocacy and capacity-building, OHCHR supported government and parliamentary efforts to operationalize this important instrument. A law authorizing ratification was promulgated by the President of the Republic on 20 February 2014, and the State's instrument of ratification was deposited on 13 May 2015, helping to strengthen the human rights protection system in Madagascar.

55. On 16 December 2014, Madagascar, encouraged by intensive advocacy, training and sensitization by OHCHR, IOM, UNICEF, UNFPA and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), adopted a law against human trafficking. This landmark law protects victims of trafficking, punishes perpetrators and affirms the State's responsibility to protect the rights of victims to return to their country and to compensation. At the Government's request, OHCHR advised on State's compliance with international standards and principles and, as Chair of the Human Rights and Gender Working Group of the United Nations country team, coordinated technical support for the Government when it was drafting a national plan of action against human trafficking, which was adopted and validated in March 2015. At the request of the Ministry of Population, Social Protection and the Promotion of Women, OHCHR is assisting the Government in drafting a national plan of action for the protection of minorities, including migrants and persons with disabilities.

## C. Compliance of national legislation, policies and programmes and institutions with international human rights standards to combat discrimination, particularly against women

### 1. Mexico and Guatemala: advancing protection of the human and labour rights of migrant workers

56. Since 2013, ILO has assisted the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (Secretaria del Trabajo y Prevision Social) of Mexico and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (Ministerio de Trabajo y Prevision Social) of Guatemala to develop and implement a bilateral labour migration agreement. The purpose of the agreement is to promote decent, productive jobs and to protect the labour rights of temporary migrant workers by, inter alia, strengthening public employment services and creating a binational system for licensing and monitoring private employment and recruitment agencies. ILO is technically assisting both countries to create a binational technical working group and a new temporary migrant worker programme, and to organize information campaigns on the protection of migrant workers' rights during recruitment and placement processes.

### 2. Europe: protection of the rights of unaccompanied migrant children

57. In 2011, the Regional Office for Europe held a judicial colloquium on the implementation of article 3 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (best interests of the child) in procedures involving migrant children, in particular unaccompanied or separated children. Organized in cooperation with UNICEF and with the support of UNHCR, Save the Children, the European Council on Refugees and Exiles, the Supreme Court of Catalonia and the Office of the Ombudsman (Spain), the colloquium brought together judges from national and regional courts in Europe to share experiences and views on how the principle of best interests can be fully respected and implemented. It considered a range of critical issues, including age determination proceedings, decisions on durable and long-term solutions for such children, access to basic social services, and the procedural safeguards necessary to ensure that children's rights are respected when decisions that may have a critical effect their future are made. The results of the colloquium were included in publications that informed efforts to implement the European Commission Action Plan on Unaccompanied Minors (2010-2014) at European Union and national levels.

58. In 2012, the Regional Office for Europe published the findings made at the colloquium. *Judicial Implementation of Article 3 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Europe: the case of migrant children, including unaccompanied children* was made public during a plenary session of the Committee on Civil Liberties of the European Parliament, which is responsible for discussing human rights issues in the European Union.

A key advocacy tool, the study has raised awareness of the importance of the role of the judiciary in determining the best interests of migrant children. It highlights good judicial practices with respect to migrant children, efforts to take them into account in policymaking and programme implementation, and differences of practice between member States of the European Union.

59. The Regional Office for Europe continues to pay special attention to the situation of unaccompanied and separated children in Europe, and will support efforts by European Union institutions and member States to follow up on the Action Plan in 2016 and in coming years.

### 3. Thailand: supporting State efforts to protect the rights of those in migrant shelters

60. In 2013, the Regional Office for South-East Asia, together with the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand, as part of its support to strengthen the capacity of national human rights institutions and other State institutions, conducted a joint mission to women's and children's shelters in Thailand to assess the treatment and conditions of migrants, in particular the situation of Rohingyas. After the visit, the two organizations engaged jointly with local and national authorities to ensure that the rights of women and children in shelters are protected and that they receive basic minimal facilities, and to support initiatives to strengthen the human rights capacity of relevant institutions.

### 4. Philippines: aligning national legislation on migration with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

61. In partnership with OHCHR and ILO, UN-Women has developed the project "Promoting and Protecting Women Migrant Workers' Labour and Human Rights: Engaging with International and National Human Rights Mechanisms to Enhance Accountability" in the Philippines, Mexico and the Republic of Moldova. The project promotes gender-sensitive policies on migration and development through research, capacity-building and advocacy, focusing on the provisions of general recommendation No. 26 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. The Philippines aligned the provisions of the new bill on overseas workers' welfare with the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

## D. Increased use of existing national protection systems and participation in public processes by right holders, especially women and discriminated groups

### Republic of Moldova: assisting national authorities to protect individual rights

62. In the context of the efforts of OHCHR to build national capacity, its technical cooperation and advisory services have strengthened the capacity of rights holders to gain access to national protection systems. One such example is its part role in the United Nations – Moldova Development Partnership Framework (2013-2017). In October 2013, a Moldovan citizen requested assistance because her partner, a citizen of Ghana, had been deported to his country of origin, even though the couple had a six-month-old child. Technical support was provided to the citizen to explain the State's procedures and to facilitate discussion of the case with the Bureau for Migration and Asylum. Her partner was issued a 30-day visa, which allowed him to return to the Republic of Moldova to register with the civil authorities. In another case, following a visit of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights in September 2013, three women held in a migrant detention centre, who were at risk of being deported from the Republic of Moldova and becoming victims of human trafficking, were freed and offered legal assistance to secure

residence permits in the country. Through its human rights advisers, OHCHR has assisted victims and United Nations partners to clarify international law requirements.

## E. Compliance and engagement by States with United Nations human rights mechanisms and bodies

### 1. Timor-Leste: strengthening State capacity to report on the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

63. At the request of the Government of Timor-Leste, the human rights advisers unit of OHCHR provided its assistance in preparing the first State party report under the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. Between March and October 2015, the unit, in collaboration with IOM, conducted three training sessions for 40 officials (including 10 women) on the Convention, the reporting process and its outcome, facilitated the translation of the list of issues and the concluding observations into Tetum (one of the official languages of Timor-Leste), and co-facilitated with the Government two consultations that gathered input for the report from State officials, civil society entities, the private sector and embassies. At the Government's request, the unit also commented on the draft State report. It disseminated the concluding observations to government officials, the national human rights institution, civil society entities, the United Nations and development partners, as well as to members of a government-led technical working group that was preparing a national plan of action on labour migration, with extensive support from IOM.

64. The draft plan of action includes a number of recommendations made by the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families in September 2015 (see CMW/C/TLS/CO/1). In the recommendations, the Committee called upon the Government to reform laws that restrict workers' rights, to raise public awareness of the benefits of migration, to promote non-discrimination, to improve monitoring of labour conditions and to strengthen accountability for abuses of migrant workers. OHCHR provided funding to allow some of these activities to be undertaken.

### 2. Belarus: protecting the human rights of victims of trafficking

65. After the universal periodic review of Belarus and in response to the recommendation that to the State develop and implement, together with OHCHR, training courses on protecting the human rights of victims of human trafficking for representatives of law enforcement bodies, including those studying at the International Centre on Migration and Anti-Trafficking in Minsk, OHCHR is currently implementing a technical cooperation project in close consultation with UNDP in Belarus. During the first phase, concluded in December 2013, five training courses were organized for law enforcement officials. They included a workshop for member States of the Group of Friends United against Human Trafficking, and an international workshop on the theme "Cross-border cooperation: exchange of experiences and best practices for combating international trafficking". Five training courses for law enforcement officials have been organized during the ongoing second phase, which started in 2014. The courses, attended mainly by participants from Belarus but also from Estonia, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, addressed the challenges of trafficking in persons, and identified good practices when combating trafficking.

### 3. European Union: assisting the Special Rapporteur on the rights of migrants to study the management of the external borders of the European Union

66. In 2012 and 2013, OHCHR assisted the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants to study the management of the external borders of the European Union and its human rights impact on migrants. His research included visits to Brussels for consultations with European Union officials, and to Greece, Italy, Tunisia and Turkey (see A/HRC/23/46).

## IV. Conclusions and recommendations

67. **The examples presented in the present report highlight a number of experiences where the provision of technical cooperation and advisory services has proved helpful in supporting States' efforts when applying a rights-based approach to the development and implementation of migration policies and programmes.**

68. **Experience has shown that protecting human rights in the context of migration requires a multifaceted approach, involving a large number of national, regional and international actors. Cooperation is a key component of successful and efficient interventions. The participation of all State and non-State stakeholders in the design, implementation, monitoring of progress, and evaluation of policies and programmes is fundamental to all rights-based interventions. In the area of migration, it is particularly crucial because the elements of migration policies are so diverse and involve a wide range of State and non-State actors. The support provided through technical cooperation and advisory services by OHCHR and other United Nations entities is based on the need to guarantee the human rights of all migrants, regardless of their status, and to ensure the fulfilment by States of their international legal obligations. The commitments in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to "leave no one behind" and to cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration that fully respects human rights regardless of migration status require an approach to migration that is based fully on human rights.**

69. **In recent years, the Human Rights Council has increasingly called for a human rights-based approach to migration, expressing its wish that OHCHR should continue to play a lead role. In this respect, the Council could consider holding regular discussions on the human rights of migrants by, for example, organizing an annual panel discussion thereon.**

70. **The examples given in the present report of technical assistance to support States' efforts illustrate many of the steps that must be taken to realize a human rights-based approach to migration.**

71. **It is important, first of all, to ensure that national laws on migration comply with international standards, and to establish a national strategy for protecting the rights of migrants, including plans to respect, protect and fulfil their rights to health, adequate housing, education and decent work.**

72. **In all forms of migration, it is essential to disaggregate needs and to identify the special needs and risks of specific groups, including women, children (including unaccompanied children), domestic workers, persons with disabilities and older persons. This task requires the development of accurate and well-designed arrangements for data collection and analysis, and a variety of indicators and benchmarks that allow States and other actors to measure the extent to which policies and their implementation actually protect and meet the needs of both migrants and host societies.**

73. Good policies and laws that comply with international standards are not, however, sufficient by themselves. Institutions with appropriate capacity are required to implement them. This implies the provision of training in human rights law and standards that relate to migrants, for border officials, judicial officials, government officials , professionals who deliver essential services or make important decisions (such as teachers and medical personnel), and also civil society organizations and migrants themselves.

74. It is vital to regulate and inform employers and recruiters of migrant workers, and to monitor and regulate employment conditions and contracts, not least by training and empowering factory inspectors and law enforcement and judicial officials who prosecute cases of abuse, protect victims and provide victims with redress.

75. Lastly, it is vital to train and strengthen the capacity of independent monitoring bodies, in particular national human rights institutions and civil society organizations, to ensure that public institutions are properly accountable.

76. The examples of technical assistance given in the present report cover most or all of these essential dimensions of action to promote a rounded, human rights-based response to all forms of migration. In close collaboration with States, other United Nations agencies and a wide range of independent bodies, OHCHR will continue to work towards a fully coherent and rights-based approach to migration, undertaking technical assistance activities that complement the mandates of these actors and add value.

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**Human Rights Council**
**Thirty-first session**
Agenda items 2 and 3
**Annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and reports of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Secretary-General**

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development**

# Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

## Report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

*Summary*

The present report is submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 28/2. It is based on contributions from Member States and takes into account the high-level panel discussion with the theme of "Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights".

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# I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 28/2 on enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights, the Human Rights Council requested the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare, in consultation with States, a report on the ways and means, as well as obstacles and challenges and proposals to overcome them, for the enhancement of international cooperation in the United Nations human rights machinery, including the Council, taking into account the discussion conducted by the high-level panel on human rights mainstreaming held during twenty-eighth session of the Council with the theme of "Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights", and submit the report to the Council. In order to give effect to that mandate, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights solicited views from all States. Contributions were received from Bahrain, the Russian Federation and the Syrian Arab Republic.[1]

2. The present report describes previous initiatives on the topic of international cooperation in the field of human rights (sect. II);[2] provides a summary of State submissions (sect. III); and summarizes points raised during the panel discussion held during the twenty-eighth session (sect. IV). Section V contains conclusions and recommendations.

# II. International cooperation in the field of human rights: substantive, procedural and institutional dimensions

3. Over the past few years, the Council, in a number of resolutions, has referred to international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.[3] In its study on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights, the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee noted the wide variety of meanings that the very concept of international cooperation may have (see A/HRC/19/74, para. 26). Surveying the main instruments on international cooperation in the field of human rights, such as the Charter of the United Nations, international human rights treaties, the Vienna Declaration and the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, the Advisory Committee acknowledged that the concept involved a wide range of actors, fields and registers (ibid., para. 26).

4. According to the Advisory Committee, international cooperation cannot be reduced to a mere juxtaposition of national interests or the logic of power relations, but is based on three assumptions: firstly, international cooperation premised on a genuine partnership and shared undertaking; secondly, while cooperation entails participation in a process, it is not an end in itself but a means to an end; and, thirdly, cooperation conveys some sense of a "shared ideal" (see A/HRC/19/74, paras. 35-37). In the latter sense, as noted in the report, cooperation is not just a matter of relations of good neighbourliness, coexistence or reciprocity, but rather of a willingness to look beyond mutual interests in order to advance the general interest (see A/HRC/19/74, para. 37).

5. In relation to substantive matters (such as development, social, humanitarian, security and cultural cooperation), the Advisory Committee, in its report, underlined that human rights were to be integrated into collaborative efforts of States in various areas (see

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[1] The full texts of the replies are on file with the Secretariat and are available for consultation.

[2] For more information on this topic, see A/HRC/19/74, A/HRC/26/41; see also A/HRC/23/20.

[3] Ibid.

A/HRC/19/74, para. 19). The universal periodic review had opened up opportunities for States, the United Nations system, regional organizations, civil society, national institutions and development actors to foster joint efforts and cooperation in the field of human rights (see A/HRC/23/20, para. 8). In that context, the Advisory Committee discussed the obligation of cooperation with monitoring bodies, ways to strengthen those bodies, the follow-up to recommendations made by these bodies and suggested measures to improve the human rights situation on the ground (see A/HRC/19/74, paras. 44-50).

6. Importantly, the Advisory Committee, recognizing the evolving nature of the concept, noted that it might be too soon to set up a typology of international cooperation. Rather a systematic framework should be developed that would allow all the parameters involved to be taken into consideration. Only then would it be possible to envisage a dynamic, rather than static, approach to the issue, with a view to identifying best practices for enhancing international cooperation in the area of human rights. Those best practices were identified and disseminated through visits by experts, as well as through studies and reports. The universal periodic review, forums and other platforms for exchanging information at the national, regional and international levels also provided a vehicle for their dissemination (see A/HRC/19/74, para. 27).

7. The Advisory Committee further endeavoured to clarify the contours of this all-encompassing topic (see A/HRC/26/41). It considered parameters such as increasing the involvement of national human rights institutions and civil society in the work of the United Nations human rights mechanisms.

8. International cooperation, according to the Advisory Committee, would be enhanced by strengthening the universal periodic review, subsidiary and special procedures of the Human Rights Council, ways and means to move towards more consolidated and synchronized State reporting, improving universal adherence to human rights texts and bodies, improving coordination with and among regional bodies, enhancing the follow-up system, consolidating the voluntary funds, mainstreaming human rights across the global institutional system and strengthening human rights cooperation in the field of migration.

9. The Council, in its resolution 28/2, accommodates these many dimensions of international cooperation in the field of human rights by covering the substantive, procedural and institutional facets of international cooperation (see also A/HRC/19/74, paras. 8-13 and 28-39). It refers to the principles of universality, non-selectivity, objectivity and transparency in the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and underlines that international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights.

## III. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights: summary of State submissions

### Bahrain

10. Bahrain emphasized that international cooperation should take into account State sovereignty as well as the domestic context. It also suggested that "naming and shaming" may not be the most constructive approach and that international cooperation should not be used to advance "demands that are not agreed upon internationally".

**Russian Federation**

11. The Russian Federation underscored that States have the primary responsibility to ensure the protection and promotion of human rights. International institutions and mechanisms are to support States in fulfilling their obligations through dialogue based on equality and mutual respect, with due attention given to the national, religious, cultural and historical specificities of each State, as well as the level of socioeconomic development. Human rights dialogue should be constructive and facilitate rapprochement between States. The Russian Federation noted that the Human Rights Council was established with the rationale of strengthening the international regime of human rights protection and enhancing constructive dialogue between States, international organizations and civil society. It further stressed that the polarized interests of various groups of States posed difficulties to discussing human rights issues in a substantive and impartial manner. Reference was also made to the need to avoid duplication when establishing special procedure mandates and to the compliance of the special procedure mandate holders with their mandates and the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate-holders of the Human Rights Council. It was noted that the universal periodic review was one important element of the international human rights protection architecture. In that context, the Russian Federation emphasized that States should cooperate on the basis of the principles of objectivity, non-selectivity and non-politicization, while confrontation and double standards should be avoided.

**Syrian Arab Republic**

12. The Syrian Arab Republic described a number of challenges to international cooperation in the field of human rights. Among them were selectivity in dealing with human rights issues, as manifested by the prioritization of one set of rights over another or assessing human rights situations only in certain countries and not others. The Syrian Arab Republic also emphasized the importance of reinforcing cultural diversity and understanding the domestic context of countries. It also noted the need for more precise and tailored recommendations from United Nations mechanisms to facilitate better implementation. The Syrian Arab Republic recommended that technical assistance and advisory programmes in the field of human rights should be exempted from political conditionality and agreed upon jointly with the countries concerned, in accordance with their national priorities. The Syrian Arab Republic stressed the importance of achieving international cooperation in accordance with the principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations and reaffirmed in subsequent declarations and resolutions.

# IV. Summary of the high-level panel discussion on human rights mainstreaming with the theme of "Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights"

## A. Opening remarks

13. In her opening remarks, the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights underlined the progress achieved since the adoption of the Charter of the United Nations, for example, the higher rates of child survival, better access to education and health care and the alleviation of poverty. Since then, peacekeeping and peacemaking efforts had also contributed to resolving numerous conflicts. Human rights, in particular women's rights, had advanced. Nonetheless, violence and discrimination continued to affect women and girls and gender stereotypes persistently compromised women's rights. Although States came together to pledge cooperation, they did not act together with the same strength.

14. The Deputy High Commissioner also noted that, while the Millennium Development Goals had led to progress, they were overly focussed on aggregate economic growth. In doing so, they neglected the most vulnerable people. For that reason, fairness and rule of law would have to be extended into the economic sphere and firm commitments to human rights should underpin the work of the United Nations as it worked to define the post-2015 development agenda. For that agenda to be transformative, a forward-looking approach to the measurement of sustainable development would be critical. It was important to invest in the collection of new data that went beyond monitoring averages, so that progress could be monitored for all social groups.

## B. Keynote speaker and panel discussions

15. The Deputy Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Abbas Bagherpour Ardekani, noted that tolerance and respect for different viewpoints would deepen and enrich the commitment to human rights, which should be based on genuine cooperation and constructive dialogue in all relevant forums, including the universal periodic review. International cooperation should therefore focus on strengthening the ability of States to implement their obligations through appropriate technical cooperation and capacity-building upon their request.

16. Mr. Abbas was of the view that cultural diversity should be a source of unity rather than division and used as a vehicle for creativity, social justice, tolerance and understanding, not as a rationale for ideological and political confrontation. The complex contemporary challenges called for global solutions and the bringing about of a democratic and equitable international order. International cooperation could help to address emerging challenges in different social, economic and cultural fields. Innovative mechanisms should be strengthened to accelerate the implementation of the right to development, which needed closer attention. The right to development should be given a high profile and be placed at the heart of the post-2015 development agenda.

17. The Executive Director of the South Centre, Martin Khor, noted that international cooperation was needed, as national actions to realize human rights were insufficient. Economic globalization influenced the way in which States were able to conduct human rights policies. For instance, in some States, sovereign debt prevented the Government from providing basic services to its citizens. In some cases, developing countries had become dependent on food aid as a result of the withdrawal of agricultural subsidies, the lowering of tariffs and the inflow of cheap, subsidized foodstuffs. In the area of health, access to medicines remained problematic. In particular, the clash between the realization of the right to health and the strict observance of intellectual property regulation impeded advances in that area.

18. Mr. Khor stressed the need to re-examine the international system of trade, technology, intellectual property and financial investments. He proposed the following: international organizations should examine the impact of their policies on the realization of human rights; States should consider the effects of their policies on the realization of human rights abroad; and the Human Rights Council should further discuss how to mainstream human rights in the international economic and social system. Furthermore, the Secretariat should be given resources to study the effects of policies and take advantage of the post-2015 development agenda, with a view to mainstreaming human rights.

19. The former Director-General of the International Labour Organization and Special Adviser on Interregional Policy Cooperation, Juan Somavia, addressed the issue of the post-2015 development agenda and the centrality of the right to development. He pointed out that, during past conferences on those topics, it had been concluded that problems

existed due to root and structural causes. Those conclusions had led to the development of the Millennium Development Goals and placed the United Nations at the centre of the discussions on those topics. The drawback of the process, however, had been its sectoral approach, which had obscured the broader picture. As a result, inequality had grown enormously, while full employment and gender equality had not been realized. Although the globalization process had been supposed to help realize the set objectives, it had actually hindered them.

20. Mr. Somavía also warned that a similar mistake could be made with the post-2015 development agenda and the sustainable development goals, as no country or region exhibited global policy leadership. He emphasized the need to be conscious that, in many societies, the distance between the system and citizens had grown. In the light thereof and in order to advance on global development issues, different growth paths needed to be defined. If the global economy continued to be defined by financial reasoning without taking a human rights-based approach into account, the development paradigm would not shift.

21. The Director of the Strategic Partnerships Division of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), Kristin Hetle, noted that much had been achieved in the field of women's rights. Nonetheless, progress had been unacceptably slow and women's rights continued to be under threat. In order to advance, universal ratification and full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women should be ensured; urgent actions had to be taken to remove discriminatory laws against women; investments in gender equality and women's rights had to increase and laws and policies had to be supported with adequate resources; accountability mechanisms should be strengthened to ensure women were empowered to claim their rights; inequalities had to be addressed; and marginalized women had to be reached through the collection of accurately disaggregated data. The gap between laws and policies and women's practical enjoyment of their rights had to be closed.

22. Ms. Hetle was also of the view that gender equality, the empowerment of women and the human rights of women and girls should be a central priority of the post-2015 development agenda. In order to be truly transformative, the post-2015 development agenda had to change the unequal distribution of power and take into account those elements that perpetuated gender inequalities, poverty, vulnerability and environmental degradation. Such change required working on alternative approaches emphasizing equality, human rights and economic, social and environmental sustainability, as well as international cooperation.

23. The Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation, Alexey Borodavkin, indicated that globalization, an increased level of interdependence and the growing potential for conflicts had an impact on international cooperation. Extremism and terrorism were impeding the enhancement of international cooperation. The need to fight against extreme forces of violence and terrorism therefore had to be prioritized in promoting human rights. Double standards, subjectivity, false accusations against Governments and politicization within the United Nations limited the possibilities for developing cooperation and had a negative effect on combating terrorism. The activities of the Human Rights Council in relation to the fight against terrorism also required a readjustment of its approach. That approach should be based on a broad scale of cooperation, inter alia, through the organization of seminars and training programmes to share best practices. Dialogue and respect for cultural diversity and different civilizations had to be reinforced. He also highlighted the importance of cooperation and technical assistance. The universal periodic review was the best mechanism to promote and enhance such cooperation and dialogue.

24. The professor of Political Science at the Complutense University of Madrid, Juan Carlos Monedero Fernández-Gala addressed the issue of political selectivity in the

application of human rights. He identified three important areas: to end inequality globally, cognitive injustice and historical injustice. Inequalities should not be ignored, collective rights should not be hampered and the understanding of the concept of human dignity should not be limited. Human rights had to become part of an inclusive dialogue and should not be discussed as part of a monologue of the powerful over the weak, of men over women, of heterosexual over homosexual and of majority over minority.

## C. Interventions by States and other stakeholders

### 1. International cooperation, the post-2015 development agenda and the right to development

25. Participants stated that approaching international cooperation from the perspective of the right to development could provide a good framework for the promotion of international cooperation and for a comprehensive response to human rights challenges. The realization of that right, in accordance with the principle of international solidarity, could also reverse existing inequalities. In that connection, the Council should not give undue attention to civil and political rights at the expense of economic, social, and cultural rights, including the right to development. Delegates also stated that the Council should take the lead in prioritizing the right to development. They indicated that the mainstreaming of the right to development should be accompanied by structural reforms at the international level and that the discourse on the post-2015 development agenda could greatly contribute to that mainstreaming.

26. The need to adhere to a rights-based approach to international development and the post-2015 development agenda was also emphasized. International cooperation should aim to strengthen the capacities of States to comply with their human rights obligations. States had the primary responsibility for realizing the right to development for their citizens. Delegates also stressed the importance of cooperation of any kind to support the efforts of States to meet their human rights obligations at the national level. They were of the view that the post-2015 development agenda should have human dignity at its heart and that differences of opinions about the right to development should not prevent the international community from achieving the realization thereof. One delegate indicated that accountability and transparency were important in achieving sustainable development and should be taken into account in the process of defining the post-2015 development agenda. Continued dialogue and the inclusion of a broader range of civil society stakeholders were considered to be crucial in ensuring accountability.

### 2. International cooperation in promoting and protecting women's rights, gender equality and diversity

27. Delegates underscored that international cooperation could support the mainstreaming of women's rights and gender equality in all development goals. Although progress had been made, gender inequalities, discrimination and violence against women and girls persisted and remained an obstacle to sustainable development. In that connection, delegates expressed appreciation for the fact that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls had been included as a stand-alone goal in the Open Working Group proposal for Sustainable Development Goals, which served as a basis for the post-2015 development agenda. In order to effectively integrate a gender perspective into the work of the Council, it was proposed that the Council's discussions should reflect the differing conditions and experiences of men, women, boys and girls around the world.

28. It was also suggested that best practices should be developed for the protection of human rights of persons that faced discrimination on the grounds of their sexual orientation and gender identity. Delegates underlined that the primary objectives of international cooperation were to ensure the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms and to maintain peace through mutual respect, tolerance and recognition and acceptance of cultural and religious diversity. Combating racist political discourse, xenophobic acts, Islamophobia, hate speech and incitement to hatred were crucial in achieving those objectives. International cooperation should seek to address multiple and intersecting forms of injustices and inequalities, including those related to sex, gender, age, race, ethnicity, sexuality, religion and ability.

### 3. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of the universal periodic review and capacity-building

29. Delegates stressed the importance of international cooperation through exchanges of experiences, the sharing of best practices, mutual assistance and South-South cooperation. Technical cooperation and capacity-building in particular were considered to be key instruments in achieving sustainable development. Good coordination among United Nations bodies was considered essential in responding to national needs to address implementation challenges and capacity-building efforts, guided by international norms and standards. Efforts to strengthen the collective capacity to protect human rights should be based on the principles of neutrality and non-selectivity, with a view to promoting a culture of solidarity.

30. Participants also recognized the importance of the universal periodic review mechanism, as it contributed to genuine dialogue and continuously reinforced its own significance in enhancing international cooperation. The representative of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights added that national human rights institutions were bound by the commitment to human rights, enabling them to cooperate among themselves and with other stakeholders to overcome political differences. To strengthen respect for human rights, the International Coordinating Committee pledged to continue supporting cooperation across all regions and looked forward to working together with relevant stakeholders.

## D. Concluding remarks of panellists

31. In their concluding remarks, the panellists stressed the need for the international community to cooperate in ensuring that developing countries were able to achieve their development goals, while mainstreaming human rights. Mr. Khor recalled the need to address obstacles to development goals both at the national and international levels. To that effect, developing countries needed aid, debt relief and trade preferences. At the same time, those countries had to prioritize and implement national policies that were consistent with the right to development.

32. Mr. Somavía noted that, while opinions differed, it was essential for statespersons to be honest, understanding and solution-oriented. International development mechanisms should apply equally to all States and be established without conditionality.

33. Ms. Hetle welcomed interventions from States renewing their commitment to the goals of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. She underlined the importance of fully implementing the commitments that had been made and stressed that words had to be turned into actions.

34. Mr. Borodavkin expressed his appreciation for the focus on the importance of developing and deepening cooperation with civil society. Although that gave rise to optimism, it was clear that diverging views existed on the concept of cooperation. He expressed the hope that, in the future, States would be able to find solutions, especially in the area of international cooperation.

35. Mr. Fernández-Gala noted that States should focus on cooperation, greater awareness of the role of women was needed and human rights should not only be defined from the angle of powerful States.

## V. Conclusions and recommendations

36. **The potential to achieve universal protection and promotion of human rights through international cooperation is inherent in the Charter of the United Nations and international human rights treaties. Recognizing that the universal protection of human rights cannot be effectively achieved by States acting individually, but only through international cooperation, the General Assembly, in its resolution 60/251, which established the Human Rights Council, acknowledged that the effective functioning of the human rights machinery was conditional on cooperation between States.**

37. **International cooperation is most effective when based on human rights, including the right to development and equality between men and women, and the principles of universality, non-selectivity, objectivity and transparency. In that context, commitments undertaken as part of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action remain valid and renewed commitments by States in this regard are welcome. Cooperation with civil society is critical for rendering international cooperation effective and should be enhanced.**

38. **In September 2015, Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which sets out a transformative vision for people and planet-centred, human rights-based and gender-sensitive sustainable development, strongly grounded in international human rights. It strives to leave no one behind and has equality and non-discrimination as its centrepiece. With its 17 Goals and 169 related targets, the Sustainable Development Goals mirror the international human rights framework encompassing all civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, as well as the right to development. Goal 17 and many of the international targets under each goal address issues that are related to duties of international cooperation and the right to development, including South-South and triangular cooperation. With its universal applicability, the 2030 Agenda will bring new opportunities to integrate all human rights into global and national policies in both developed and developing countries over the next 15 years, including through enhanced international cooperation, towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the universal protection and promotion of human rights.**